

INDIAN PRINCELY MEDALS

A Record of the Orders, Decorations
and Medals of the Indian Princely States



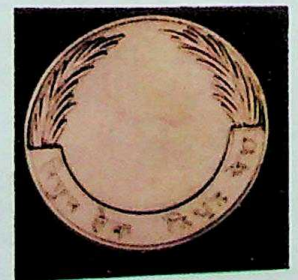
Tony McClenaghan

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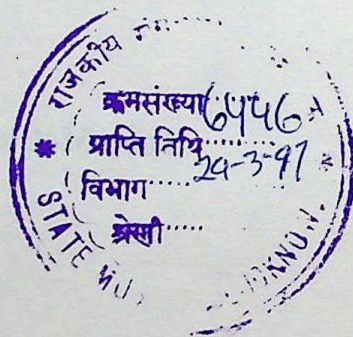
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Corrigendum

Chapter 48 - Unidentified. page 263. Since going to print the unidentified ribbons 274, 275 and 276 which, it was tentatively suggested, might be connected with Indore, have now been positively identified as belonging to Thailand. They should be ignored in the context of this book.

PREFACE

As we approach the fiftieth anniversary of India and Pakistan gaining their independence from the British, interest in the period of the Raj still exists and, if anything, has heightened in recent years. The lifestyle of the Indian princes has been made the subject of books, articles and television programmes but, while many of these have concentrated on the pomp and ceremony of the princely court, few have touched upon the question of honours and awards. Most surviving photographs of the ruling chiefs show them wearing a variety of insignia of British honours, usually one of the classes of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India or the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, occasionally the Royal Victorian Order. Where they are accompanied by officers of their own court, these gentlemen are invariably shown wearing a number of medals, though the detail is often too indistinct to permit identification. Some are undoubtedly British war medals but others are less certain.

One might be forgiven for thinking, therefore, that the ruling chiefs were so totally immersed in the British Raj that they had no separate system of honours and awards. Such a view would be quite erroneous, though if the British had had their way this would certainly have been the case. Many of the chiefs were descended from ancient lineages, with their own traditions and practices which included the grant of *jagirs*, or lands, as well as *khillats* and articles of wear to reward deserving followers. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, however, prevented as they were by their treaties with the British from expanding their lands, they found there were limits to the number or extent of the *jagirs* that they could award and so attempted with varying degrees of success to emulate the British practice of rewarding good service by the introduction of orders, decorations and medals.

Sadly, the record of such awards, if ever one existed in the first place, has been largely lost or destroyed. Between 1971 and 1974 Wing Commander Eamonn O'Toole, a member of the Orders and Medals Research Society, attempted to compile a list of all State awards. Other members of the Society contributed to his project, drawing largely on medal ribbons in their own collections, some of which had been formed in the days before Independence when one might have expected information on the Princely States to be readily available. Even so, Wing Commander O'Toole was forced to conclude that:

"...the end result is still far from satisfactory.... It has not been possible, for example, to produce an exhaustive and authoritative list of the States which had decorations at some time in their history.....I have the names of over 200 awards but.....there could be as many as 400....I get the impression that for many people....the heyday of the Princes and the time when most of the State decorations must have been created, is best forgotten." ¹

My own interest began in the mid 1960s with a very small and modest collection of British campaign medals. One was the India General Service Medal 1908 with clasp "Afghanistan N.W.F. 1919" named to a sowar in "R.I.S. LCRS". It was quickly established that this was a lancer unit of the Imperial Service Troops, those units belonging to the Indian Princely States, maintained to a standard set by the British and available for imperial duties if required. It was, however, many years before I was able to identify the unit as the Patiala Rajindra Imperial Service Lancers. Meanwhile, in 1967, the late Maharaja of Jaipur published his book on the Indian State Forces, as the Imperial Service Troops had later come to be known, and I was hooked. My study of these units, and of their uniforms, led to the realisation that there were indeed a number of medals worn that were obviously not British.

Wing Commander O'Toole's list was a great step forward and, like many other collectors, I was immensely grateful for his efforts. In the twenty years since that list appeared I have been able to unearth and identify quite a few more, but still the list remains incomplete. Tantalising references, or obscure photographs and pictures, leave me in no doubt that there are others which are not covered here. It is unfortunate, therefore, that present day attitudes in India are generally no more helpful than were those of their British predecessors. My own attempts in India to research information for this book met with varying degrees of success. Members of former ruling families, other individuals who had been connected with the princes, or those who had served the States, were only too pleased to help, as were some officials, but other officials in charge of records and archives made it plain that cataloguing of early records was far behind schedule, that records concerning the Indian Princely States were a very low priority, and suggested that if the records survived the ravages of worm before they could be catalogued it would be a miracle. This is a pity. It seems unlikely that a complete record of such orders, decorations and medals will ever be compiled though it is to be hoped that more might come to light as a result of this book being published. The chances of finding more statutes and lists of those who received the decorations seem remote, given the backlog of cataloguing of former States papers. What follows is incomplete, but at least it is a start.

I have had to be selective about what to include and what to omit. For instance, I have not included medallions awarded for events such as agricultural or industrial exhibitions (though many are of superb workmanship and would make a useful and attractive study in their own right), nor have I included medals for events such as 'Bikaner Baby Week', though I came across one during my research. It was often the custom in an Indian State to weigh the ruler against gold or silver coin on the occasion of his accession, birthday or other significant anniversary, and to distribute the proceeds among the poor. Such weightings were often commemorated in coin and I have largely excluded these, though I have included a couple where they seemed to be intended for wear. I have not included the countries of Nepal, Burma, Sikkim and Bhutan because I consider their relationship with the British Raj to have been of a different order to the States which I have included, though I do know of some work which has been done on Nepal and Sikkim. Similarly I have not included the Mughal Empire, though an example of the Order of the Fish, founded in 1804 by Emperor Shah 'Alam, recently appeared in auction in London. Nor have I included ancient Indian kingdoms such as Awadh (Oudh) which produced, perhaps, one of the most striking pieces in the Coronation Medal of Ghazi al-Din Haidar (1819 A.D.) (seen in both gold/gilt weighing 107.35g and silver weighing 81.65g). My reason for this is that the medallion is well covered in other publications (e.g. "Unusual World Coins" by Colin R Bruce II and Bruce Wayne Smith, as well as the Numismatic Supplement to JASB, Suppl. No.1, Vol 73, 1904) and I have nothing new to add to these publications. I have, however, made an exception for the Sikh Empire since I believe I have uncovered some interesting new detail not previously published.

Many people have helped with this research project, not least Wing Commander O'Toole who kindly made available to me his own research notes and copies of correspondence with other collectors. I have been allowed to consult a number of medal and ribbon collections, including the Guille Ribbon Collection held by the Orders and Medals Research Society, and a number of privately held ones. I am most grateful to Keith Benner, Colin Bruce, the late Colonel A Guaydier, George Golding, Bill Hill, Prashant Kulkarni, Dave Parsons, Ken Robbins, Bill Spengler, Lawrence Winter, and others who expressed a wish to remain anonymous.

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Bill Spengler and others also read the text and offered many helpful suggestions and comments but, needless to say, the responsibility for any errors in the book is mine alone.

Tilbrook, Cambridgeshire
1996

1. E.H. O'Toole "Decorations of the Indian Princely States". The Journal of the Orders and Medals Research Society, Vol 13, No 1 (142), Spring 1974, p.3.

CHAPTER 1

AN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

During the period of the British Raj in India the country fell into two separate camps for internal and administrative purposes: British India, governed by the Viceroy with the full machinery of central, provincial and district administrations; and the Indian States, each responsible for its own internal administration, though under British 'supervision' to one degree or another through Residents or Political Agents. States varied in size from Hyderabad, an area equivalent to France with a population in 1931 of 14½ million, over whom the Nizam held the power of life or death, to estates of 1 square mile with a population of 300 or less where the powers of the chief were virtually non-existent.

It was usually said that the Indian States comprised one third of the total area and one fifth of the population of India but this equation tended to count Burma in with the States. The questions concerning Burma were of such a different order that, excluding it from the equation, but adding Berar and the Administered Areas, the States totalled approximately half the geographical area and accounted for a quarter of the population of the Indian Empire. For the purposes of this study, Sikkim and Bhutan have not been included.

The preponderance of States (there were some 560 at the time of Independence) reflected a number of factors extant since the earliest days of India's history. In the early Hindu states the king was an essential element of religious ceremonies. Hindu monarchies followed the laws of the Shashtra and the principles as laid down in the Code of Manu wherein, over the aeons, a well defined concept of succession, largely by primogeniture in the lineal male descent, was recognised and followed. Even so, this belief in a divine right to rule did not prevent the more powerful Hindu kings exercising suzerainty over, and intervention in the internal affairs of, less powerful but no less divine sovereigns. These lesser rulers offered allegiance to the more powerful one; subordinated their foreign policy to his diplomatic moves; usually served him in war and offered him tribute; but in other respects maintained their own sovereignty. The weakness of the system was that it relied almost entirely on the personality and might of the suzerain, so that when he died, unless there was someone equally as strong to take his place, the whole edifice crumbled as lesser sovereigns sought to assert their independence.

Thus it was that the Muslims were able to vanquish the Hindu kingdoms in northern India, beginning in the eighth century with Muhammad-bin-Qasim. But unlike Hindu beliefs, Muslims recognised no authority higher than the 'Shar', the Body of Law built up during the ages after the death of the Prophet. As Yusuf Husain has noted, "Islam is not committed to any political form of sovereignty, such as kingship, an aristocracy or a democracy"¹, and the 'Shar' provided for no law of succession for monarchical dynasties. The Caliph was the highest executive and commander of the faithful and the election of the first Caliph, Abu Bakar, provided Muslim jurists with the precedents on which to base their rulings regarding succession to the office, "though gradually ideas of autocracy and the divine right to rule entered the Caliphate"². According to Sunni theory, "sovereignty lay in the Muslim brotherhood that might confer sovereignty on any bona fide Muslim"³. The "elective" concept of a Muslim monarchy, as it evolved in practice over time, had neither the advantage of an election, since this aspect was largely circumvented, nor the benefit of an hereditary succession. The Mughals in Central Asia, though Sunnis, also believed in the divine right of rulers though this did not prevent successions sometimes being "decided by the sword"⁴. Nevertheless, despite this fundamental difference between Hindu and Muslim beliefs, the Hindu kingdoms which the Muslims had overrun

were ready to recognise the paramountcy of their new masters, though it might be argued that eventually nothing contributed so much to the final dissolution of the Moghul Empire as the absence of any well recognised principle of succession to the Muslim Monarchy.

In 1526 Babur defeated the last Sultan of Delhi at the Battle of Panipat, as well as the powerful Rajput confederacy at Khanua, thus laying the foundation of the Mughal empire. Like the Sultans before them, who now recognised the paramountcy of the Mughals, the new rulers retained the system of subordinate rulers. Babur's grandson, Akbar, asserted his authority over the Muhammadan kingdoms in the manner of succession and retained for himself the power to depose any ruler for disloyalty. Control was maintained by governors who ruled on behalf of the Emperor, with viceroys ruling over the more distant provinces but without any sovereign rights of their own. It was Akbar's great-grandson, Aurangzeb, who weakened the Mughal empire by his attempts to conquer the Muslim kingdoms of Bijapur and Golconda, and to subjugate the Mahrattas. Furthermore, Aurangzeb was a bigoted Muslim, so unlike his two predecessors, and it was his religious intolerance which alienated the allegiance of the Mahratta Hindus. One of his subordinates, Shivaji, led powerful units of cavalry against the troublesome Muhammadan tributaries on behalf of Aurangzeb, whilst at the same time attacking the Imperial domains in such a way that Aurangzeb was forced to ignore it. Shivaji had himself confirmed as tributary ruler of the Konkan, a strip of country between Bombay and Goa, and in an alliance with the King of Golconda, led a large army into Madras and Mysore to expand his territory at the expense of the Muhammadan kingdoms. This promise of a new Mahratta empire to replace the Moghuls came to nothing. Shivaji's son had been taken prisoner and executed by the Mughals so that, on Shivaji's death the Peshwas, or chief ministers, took over.

In the meantime the Rajput chiefs, who had served Aurangzeb's predecessors, rose up in revolt against Aurangzeb's bigotry. This dual threat from Shivaji and the Rajputs dealt a weakening blow to Aurangzeb, although he was able to rule for another twenty years until his death in 1707, and succeeded in breaking up Shivaji's well-knit kingdom, thanks largely to the intrigue and corruption of the Peshwa's court and perpetual wars between Scindia and Holkar.

Within twenty years of Aurangzeb's death the Mughal empire had collapsed. Mahratta and Rajput chieftains consolidated their positions, the former by establishing new states, the latter by re-asserting their sovereignty and independence which had been inherent in the land for centuries. At the same time the Viceroys of Bengal and the Deccan had been establishing hereditary rights in their provinces, whilst in the Punjab the Sikhs began to form several states.

It was into this arena that the British and the French were to bring their own conflicts, mirroring their rivalries in Europe. The British had come earlier than the French and had started a number of coastal factories in the name of 'The Company of merchants of London trading unto the East Indies', later to become the Honourable East India Company. Dupleix came out as Director of the French East India Company in 1741 and found the family of the Nizam-ul-Mulk, Viceroy of the Deccan, living as refugees in French Pondicherry, where they had fled a Mahratta invasion. The continuing conflicts among Indian rulers on the one hand, and between Indian rulers and French or British interests, led to the arrival of other European or American adventurers who formed regular corps in the service of Indian Princes. Eventually, as every student of Indian history knows, the British succeeded in driving the French from the scene.

The East India Company had already started to make treaties with a number of the Indian States, beginning with Sawantwari on 12th January 1730, but these were aimed at no more than the maintenance of the Company's privileged position of trade against its rivals. Indeed, the Company seemed actively to discourage closer ties. For instance, in 1788 the Government of Madras informed

the Raja of Travancore, in answer to a request for British officers to train and command his troops, that it was not their policy to allow officers to command any troops except their own.⁵ Nevertheless, treaties aimed at protecting the commercial stake in the country actually laid the foundations of the British empire in India. For instance, the Nizam of Hyderabad signed a treaty on 14th May 1795 by which he was guaranteed protection from the Mahrattas and other encroaching neighbours, though he was compelled to dispense with the services of his French allies as the price of this protection. Four years later two hundred of his troops took part in the British assault on Seringapatam (4th May 1799) as a result of which Mysore was brought to the disposal of the British. The Mysore troops in turn fought on the British side against Scindia under the terms of a treaty requiring the State to maintain a Subsidiary force.

It was the Marquess of Wellesley, Earl of Mornington, who came to India as Governor-General in 1798, who was convinced that the British had to become the one paramount power in the country, though it was his successor but one, the Marquess of Hastings, who pushed the procedure along almost to its conclusion, leaving it to Lord Dalhousie a quarter of a century later to finish the work. This period witnessed a number of battles to consolidate the position. The Charter Act of 1833 abolished the Company's trading activities and allowed it to assume the functions of the government of India. Territories were annexed, often on allegations of maladministration, the rulers deposed and their followers dispossessed. The Mutiny, or Great Revolt, of 1857 saw the responsibility for government pass from the Honourable East India Company to the British Crown, with the Governor General also becoming the monarch's Viceroy. Treaties between ruling princes and the Company were transferred to the Crown and exercised through the Government in London, the Crown acting for each State in its dealings with foreign powers and with other Indian States. Queen Victoria's proclamation of 1858 announced that the British were seeking no extension of present territorial possessions and maintained that "We shall respect the rights, dignity, and honour of Native Princes as our own."⁶

The Interpretation Act, introduced in Parliament in 1889, defined British India as:

"...all territories and places within Her Majesty's dominions which are for the time being governed by Her Majesty through the Governor General of India, or through any Governor or officer subordinate to the Governor General of India, together with any territories of any Native Prince or Chief under the suzerainty of Her Majesty, exercised through the Governor General of India, or through any Governor or officer subordinate to the Governor General of India."⁷

This is not as clear as it may sound, however, as the following Certificate of Status conferred on the Maharaja of Jaipur in June 1943 shows:

"His Majesty's Government accords to His Highness the Maharaja [of Jaipur] the status not of an independent Ruler but of a Ruling Prince governing his own State under the suzerainty of His Majesty. His Highness's territory is not regarded as being part of British India or of His Majesty's dominions and neither His Highness nor his subjects are accordingly subjects of His Majesty. But, though His Highness is thus not independent, he exercises as Ruler of his State various attributes of sovereignty which are not derived from British Law but are inherent in the Ruler; subject, however, to the suzerainty of His Majesty the King Emperor of India, and to the exercise by the Crown Representative in India of such rights and powers

of territorial sovereignty as have by treaty, usage or otherwise, passed to the Suzerain, for instance, the conduct of international relations, the exercise of jurisdiction over Europeans and Americans, interference to settle disputes as to succession to the State, the suppression of gross misrule in the State, or the regulation of armaments and the strength of military forces etc. Under Section 86, read with Section 85, of the Indian Code of Civil Procedure, in the matter of jurisdiction of civil courts in India, His Highness is placed in the same position as a Foreign Sovereign."⁸

Clearly one attribute of sovereignty which the British were most unwilling to allow the Indian Princes to exercise was in the creation and grant of orders, decorations and medals. As far as the British were concerned, the Sovereign was the fount of all honour and the British Empire only had one Sovereign. They discouraged wherever possible the introduction by the Princely States of orders, decorations and medals but acquiesced, not always with good grace, when faced by a particularly robust ruler. As the following pages show, they were not particularly successful in their opposition to the creation of such awards, though they were able to introduce stringent rules as to their acceptance and wear which probably account for the paucity of photographic records referred to earlier. The view of the Princes was probably summed up by the Maharaja of Mysore in 1920 when challenged about the 'new' awards of the Ghandabherunda Order. He replied that the awards were neither new, nor did they belong to a distinct 'Order'.

"They are merely the continuance of the ancient custom of conferring *Birudus* and *mana mariyadas* (titles, decorations, souvenirs, khillats etc) on persons who by their learning, benevolence or services to the public, the State or the Sovereign have deserved recognition at his hands."⁹

It should be remembered, of course, that the practice of giving medals as marks of approval on a wide basis was a relatively late development. Whilst the concept of orders has existed for at least six hundred years, the introduction of decorations and medals is a much later phenomenon. Within the British arena it was King Charles I who introduced the idea in 1643, though it is probable that the first medal actually struck for wear by officers and men was the Dunbar Medal of 1650, awarded to Cromwell's Parliamentary Forces. The first medal awarded by the Honourable East India Company was the Deccan Medal of 1778-1784, given for service in Gujerat and the Carnatic, followed by the Mysore Medal (1790-1792), Capture of Ceylon Medal (1795-1796), and Seringapatam Medal (May 1799), but all of these preceded the Charter Act of 1833, so the Company was still a Trading House and the awards can hardly be said to have been the gift of the Sovereign. Indeed, the terms under which the Company operated in India at that time paid lip service to their recognition of the Mughal emperor as paramount power, though Lord Hastings' encouragement to Ghazi al-Din-Haidar, Nawab of Awadh, to accept the title of King in 1819, provided a clear indication of just how far the Mughal decline had proceeded. It was only after the annexation of Awadh in 1856, on grounds of internal misrule, that the British finally assumed the role of paramount power.

The Waterloo Medal of 1815 was the first example in the British Army of a medal being given to *all* soldiers present in a particular campaign, as well as the next-of-kin of men killed in action. In India this practice was first reflected in the Ghuznee Medal of 1839.

It was sometime before 1839 that the first medal was instituted by an Indian State. Jean Francois

Allard, an ardent Bonapartist, always wore his 'Legion d'Honneur' even after he became a general for Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the "Lion of the Punjab", and was influential in designing the Order of Ranjit Singh. As with the European practice, so the portrait of the ruler appeared on the medal. Other awards were created by the Punjab ruler and are included in the following pages, though the relationship between the Punjab and the British Government at that time was quite different to later relationships with Indian princes. The earliest campaign medals issued by an Indian State, which was at the time in a relationship with the British, have been traced to Kashmir and are described in the following pages.

The participation by Imperial Service Troops in the First World War led to a number of awards being created, though not without British opposition. As described in the section on Mysore, the Government objected on the grounds that:

"As the Maharaja's Imperial Service Troops who have been on active service will be entitled to the British War Medal and the Victory Medal, the Military authorities are of the opinion that there are no military reasons for encouraging His Highness to grant an additional medal. Further, if Mysore were permitted to grant such a medal, it would be very difficult to resist similar claims from other Indian Princes whose forces had rendered quite as good service as those of Mysore."¹⁰

Mysore finally withdrew its proposal, though other States persisted and awards were struck.

Other correspondence at about the same time, though emanating from a different area of India, brought the issue into focus and identified what seems to have been the principal concern of the British, though it does not feature again in any correspondence so far traced on the subject. In August 1916 the Agent to the Governor in Kathiawar wrote to the Government seeking clarification of the question of honours and awards following an incident during a tour by the Governor of Kathiawar when he was invited by a chief to distribute medals to his subjects. These medals, produced by the chief, bore a close resemblance to British war medals and were, in some instances, worn alongside British medals. The Agent referred to his understanding that principles had been laid down by the Government and suggested that these be promulgated to Political Officers, but not to the chiefs. He offered the opinion that chiefs ought to be allowed to issue medals to their own subjects, to be worn within the State, as long as they did not resemble decorations given by the King-Emperor, but suggested that "...the wearing of such ornaments in British India, alongside decorations conferred by His Majesty and in the presence of his principal representatives in India, would seem to require careful regulation."¹¹

The Government replied as follows:

"No formal orders have been promulgated on the subject, but permission has, on one occasion, been given by the Government of India to an important Ruling Chief to grant to his own subjects medals and badges, other than war medals and badges of orders, without restriction, and to those servants of his State who are British subjects (other than European officials), with the previous consent of His Excellency the Viceroy, subject to the following conditions:-

(a) that the medals or badges shall not be worn alongside those conferred by His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor,

(b) that, outside the State, they shall be worn only by State subjects in

immediate attendance on the Ruling Prince or Chief concerned, and

(c) that they shall not be worn at receptions, levees, etc., held by the King-Emperor, the Viceroy, the Governor, or the Local Representative of the British Government outside the State, but may be worn by State subjects at such functions within the State.

.....I am to add that it is desirable to avoid the issue of any general rule or discussion of the subject The dignity and value of any honours which His Majesty may be graciously pleased to bestow would inevitably suffer if every Chief were permitted to add to them directly or indirectly, *and a still more difficult position would be created if any title or honour bestowed by a particular Chief, representing like Kolhapur, the house of Shivaji, came to be more prized than honours bestowed by His Majesty.*"¹²

This seems to me to be a key to the British attitude towards honours bestowed by the Princes. Given the Hindu belief of divine right to rule, and given the claimed descent of some rulers from the Hindu deity, there was a fear that medals awarded by the Sovereign, a mere mortal, albeit King-Emperor, would be seen to be of less value and would cut across the notion of Sovereign as fount of all honour, thereby undermining his position of authority. Another contributing factor might be that, traditionally, local honours were invariably accompanied by a grant of land title, or *jagir*. A large number of the Indian soldiery were also recruited from territorial areas comprising the Princely States and the British may have feared that such potential recruits would prefer service within their own territorial areas since the British could only confer *jagirs* in British India, and not close to home in the territory of a Ruler. Thus it became imperative that the pre-eminence of awards conferred by the King-Emperor be maintained in relation to Princely awards.

One of the main stipulations covering permission to create awards was that the ruler in question had to enjoy a salute of 11 guns or more. There were 86 States which met this criterion, though as will be seen from the following pages, not all were interested in exercising their right. A small number of States with a salute of less than 11 guns managed to create awards and these have been included. An inconclusive attempt to resolve the question of Indian States awards was made in the period 1929-1932. In August 1929 King George V was reported to think that:

"Where no less than 86 Princes and Ruling Chiefs are entitled to a salute of 11 guns or over, that unless some considerable restriction is imposed as regards the grant of titles, medals and badges, their numbers in a short time will become so great that they will have little value, apart from the effect they may have on the feelings of Indian subjects residing in adjoining territories."¹³

A 'Memorandum Embodying the Principles Relating to the Grant of Titles, Medals and Badges by Rulers of Indian States' (1929 number 5 dated 21 November 1929) was drawn up and approved by the King in January 1930. It was issued on 1st April 1930 as Memorandum No. D279 P2841/30 and became the closest document to a statute on the whole subject. The Memorandum began with the warning that

"nothing should be done which might create the impression that there can be

any fountain of Imperial honour other than the King-Emperor and his representative."¹⁴

It went on to lay down that badges granted by rulers should not resemble the insignia of orders, nor should they be worn like orders. Similarly, rulers were not to issue non-Indian titles and were to refrain from issuing the higher Indian titles, such as Maharajadhiraja and Nawab, unless they enjoyed a salute of more than 17 guns. They were also to refrain from issuing the titles regularly conferred by the Viceroy. Titles conferred by rulers on British subjects had to be specifically recognised by the Viceroy or an authority empowered by him for that purpose before they could be used. Rulers were forbidden to confer titles on the subjects of another State, without the concurrence of the relevant ruler. Other stipulations were:

"War Medals. The grant of war medals is the exclusive prerogative of the Crown. Should any Ruler of an Indian State desire to grant war medals to his troops, the proposal will be considered on its merits, and if necessary, His Majesty's pleasure will be taken.

Medals and Badges.subject to the following conditions, there is no objection to the award by Rulers of Indian States with salutes of not less than 11 guns of medals and badges to subjects of Indian States and in exceptional cases to British subjects:-

(a) The consent of the Viceroy, or of a local Government or Political authority specially empowered by His Excellency for this purpose should be obtained before medals or badges are awarded to British subjects. In the case of a Medal, when the consent of the Viceroy is given, the orders will state whether the recipient is to be permitted to wear it and, if so, on what conditions.

(b) The grant of medals or badges to subjects of other Indian States will be subject to the same conditions as in the case of titles.

(c) Indian States' Medals are to be worn after decorations conferred by the King-Emperor, the Viceroy, or with His Majesty's approval by the Ruler or Government of a Foreign State.

(d) Outside State territory State subjects and officials may wear State medals only when the Ruler of the State concerned is present."¹⁵

The princes were not satisfied with the principles embodied in the Memorandum and set up a committee to argue their case. The 'Record of the Proceedings of the Committee on Ceremonials, 1932' considered that the basic argument of the Memorandum, that the fountain of orders and conferment of non-Indian titles was the prerogative of the Crown, was unacceptable since no such restrictions appeared in their treaties. Similarly, the right of rulers to issue higher Indian titles was not a concession of the Indian Government to give since they had always conferred such titles, whether they had 17 gun

salutes or not. They found the restriction on war medals unacceptable and against the spirit of their treaties. As for the clause about wear, they were prepared to accept that their medals should be worn after Imperial medals but could see no reason why they should take precedence after foreign awards. They also objected to the restrictions on wearing State medals outside the State. They felt that Britons employed by the State should be allowed to accept State awards and were only ready to concede that those Britons not employed by the State but who had received State awards should not wear them outside the State.

The Foreign and Political Department commented that the Memorandum touched on the prerogative of the King and could not be a subject for general discussion. "No alteration can be made....either in the wording...or in the principles....without the consent and approval of His Majesty."¹⁶

In December 1930 the Rulers of Kashmir, Bhopal, Bikaner and Patiala represented the matter in a private audience with the King as a result of which it was suggested that the Chamber of Princes draw up a memorial, stating what they wanted, to be submitted to the King or Viceroy. A committee met at the end of January 1932. The question at issue was not so much the right of princes to confer honours as the recognition of such honours when conferred. The princes argued that they could not indefinitely continue to confer *jagirs* and the like and that the only satisfactory modern solution was to confer orders, titles or decorations as a mark of their favour. Another argument concerning war medals was that State officers on active service received a general service medal while those who had to stay behind for duties such as training received nothing. Officers of the Indian Army, on the other hand, received a medal even if they never left Army HQ.

Meanwhile, there were disagreements among the princes themselves. In 1931 a complaint was made by a number of 9-gun salute princes that the Memorandum did not allow them to create awards, and yet some of them were permanent members of the Chamber of Princes and should be as entitled as other permanent members. There was some sympathy for their position and at least one official suggested an amendment to the offending paragraph of the Memorandum, though there is no record that this was ever effected.

Other 'entitled' princes tried jealously to guard their own position within the system. In 1934 the Baroda Darbar complained that the Raolji of Mansa, in the Sabar Kantha Agency, had conferred the title of Rajratna on some of his subjects on the occasion of his installation on the *gaddi*. They pointed out that a gold or silver medal of the Rajratna class had been granted by the Gaekwar to his subjects in recognition of services to the State, and the use of the same title by Mansa was likely to lead to confusion. They further pointed out that under the terms of the Memorandum the Raolji could not be classed as among the rulers empowered to confer such a title. The Political Agent responsible for Mansa replied that, as far as he was aware, the Maharaja of Idar had been conferring the title Raj Ratna (Gem of the State) for a number of years and no confusion had arisen. He went on to say that the title in question did not feature in the Memorandum. He had been present at the Darbar when the title was conferred and "no gold or silver medal or badge, as the term is generally understood, was givenA small brooch was admittedly pinned to the Safa of the recipient, but it can't possibly be called a medal or badge. It couldn't be worn around the neck or on the dress of the recipient"¹⁷ This reply prompted another official to comment that a badge is a badge, no matter how it is worn, and therefore it came within the terms of the Memorandum. The reply also prompted Baroda to challenge what was meant by "Rulers of Indian States" in paragraph 3 of the Memorandum. The Foreign and Political Department in New Delhi confirmed that it meant rulers enjoying salutes of 11 guns or over. In June 1937 the Raolji was told on behalf of the Viceroy to discontinue the practice.

The general problem was exacerbated by recognition of five orders, one from Zanzibar and four

from Malay States. The Government claimed that a difference existed in that these were "protected States" whose rulers had a long established right to found orders, whereas the Indian princes had only claimed or exercised such a right in recent years. Even a visit to the Federated States of Malaya and the Dutch East Indies by one of the Maharaja of Patiala's officers on behalf of the Chamber of Princes in 1932 to collect details of rules for conferring titles and medals, advanced the cause no further.

Apart from occasional references thereafter, such as Lord Linlithgow becoming exercised at the Gaekwar of Baroda wearing an "Order" in 1940 (though not stipulated, this was undoubtedly the Most Noble Order of Vikramaditya), it seems that the issue was never fully discussed again and therefore never satisfactorily resolved. As will be seen from the following pages, a number of States did issue war medals for the Second World War but, as with the rest of the subject, the exact numbers may never be known.

The attitude of the British, leaving aside religious questions, is reflected in a letter from Sir F. Ponsoby of 3 January 1931 conveying the King's approval of the 1930 Memorandum, in which he wrote "...the wearing of glittering baubles is always a peculiar attraction to the Eastern mind and pressure will no doubt be brought....to scatter decorations profusely."¹⁸ This may have been true in some cases, though the sentiment expressed probably disguises other reasons for wanting to keep the subject at bay. Even if it were true of some, however, others must have been well earned and deserve to be remembered.

References:

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2. J N Sarkar. "Mughal Polity". Idarah-i-Adabiyat-i-Delli, 1984, p.44.
3. Dr R P Tripathi. "Some Aspects of Muslim Administration". Allahabad: Central Book Depot, p.2.
4. Ishtiaq Husain Qureshi. "The Administration of the Mughal Empire". Patna: N V Publications, p.27.
5. Lee-Warner, Sir William. "The Native States of India". London: MacMillan & Co, 1910.
6. V.P. Menon. "The Story of the Integration of the Indian States". New York: MacMillan, 1956, as reprinted by Arno Press, New York, 1972 for World Affairs, National and International Viewpoints, p.9.
7. The Interpretation Act, 1889 (52 and 53 Vic. Chapter 63, Section 18).
8. Certificate of Status of H.H. the Maharaja of Jaipur - to the College of Arms, 2 June 1943. "Honours: Attitude regarding the right of Indian Princes to devise their own armorial bearings, May 31 - May 46". IOLR/L/P&S/13/412, File24.
9. Dewan of Mysore's letter to Resident, dated 7 September 1920. Residency Records of Mysore. IOLR R/2 (37/354).

10. Letter from Viceroy's Camp to Resident of Mysore, dated 2 December 1919. *ibid.*
11. Government of Bombay, Political Department. Order No. 884 - 47-Confl. issued at Bombay Castle, 2nd February 1917. IOLR R/2 (512/189).
12. *ibid.*
13. Minute Paper P.Y. 1854/38
14. Honours: grant of titles and decorations by Indian Princes and Chiefs, November 1929 - November 1943. Memorandum No. D279 P2841/30. IOLR/L/P&S/13/491 File 103.
15. *ibid.*
16. Indian States: Grant of titles and decorations by Ruling Princes and Chiefs, 1913-32. IOLR/L/P&S/15/47 (H 76/1920).
17. "Grant of 'Rajratna' by Mansa. Objection raised by Baroda". IOLR R/2 (642/351)
18. Minute Paper P.Y. 1854/38, *op. cit.*

CHAPTER TWO

THE SIKH EMPIRE

Although the following awards of the Punjab have been included here it is readily acknowledged, as mentioned in Chapter One, that the relationship between the Sikh Empire and the British was of a quite different order to that of later Indian Princely States. Nevertheless, these awards are among the first 'medals' to be created by an Indian ruler, particularly for commemorating participation in battles, and as such they have a definite place in this work.

For the purposes of this study we can pass quickly over the early history of the Sikh Empire. Originally founded solely as a religious body by Guru Nanak (1469-1539), the Sikh people were gradually transformed into an aggressive military power, partly due to their oppression under the Mughals. It was the tenth and last Guru, Gobind Singh, who occupied the *Guru Gaddi* from 1675-1708, who was largely responsible for forging the military strength of the Sikhs, instilling at the same time a particular discipline. With his death the Khalsa, the Sikh brotherhood, emerged as the controlling body of Sikhism. Taking to the hills, they became a formidable guerrilla force and scored a series of military victories, culminating in the recapture of Lahore from the Persian army of Ahmad Shah Durrani in 1764, after which the Sikh chieftains sub-divided into twelve *misls* or equals, each with his own clan. By 1792 the most prominent of these chieftains was Mahan Singh whose death that same year led to the accession of Ranjit Singh, then aged 12 years.

He was to dominate Sikh affairs, becoming without doubt the "first among equals". His conquest of Amritsar in 1802 was followed by Ludhiana (1806), Multan (1818), Kashmir (1819), Ladakh (1833) and Peshawar (1834). He entered into a treaty with the British in 1809 which recognised him as ruler of those areas occupied by him south of the Sutlej. In the same year, however, the British entered into a Proclamation of guarantee with the Cis-Sutlej states, Patiala, Jind and Nabha, against encroachment from Lahore.

Ranjit Singh had hired a number of foreigners to train his army. One of these was Jean Francois Allard, an ardent Bonapartist, who always wore his 'Legion D'Honneur' even after he became a general for Ranjit Singh. Though I have found no documentary evidence to support the view, it is widely held that he was influential in the design of the first of the Punjab medals, founded in 1821.

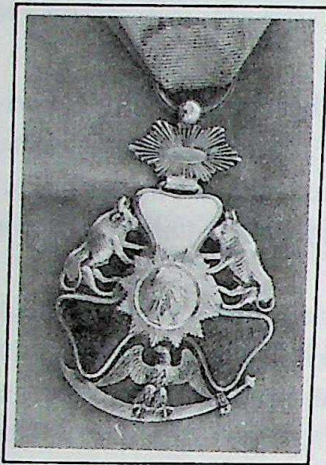
1.

ORDER OF RANJIT SINGH

One source believes the battle honours named on the reverse of the medal would have been peculiar to the recipient and that only one General, Hari Singh Nalwa, took part in all five battles.¹ Since the same medal has appeared in more than one publication, in one case wrongly attributed to the Comores Islands,² it seems more likely that what is described here represents the only design of the medal and that it was given more as a meritorious service medal than a campaign medal.

Obverse

A trefoil design with the three arms enamelled in blue (left), white (top) and red (right). In the centre a twelve pointed star with, at its centre, an effigy of Ranjit Singh facing right. He wears



Reverse



Size

43mm x 60mm

Metal

Gold, silver and enamel

Ribbon

37mm; a central green stripe (21mm) with an orange stripe (8mm) on either side.

Suspension

Ball and ring

Designer

Influenced by Allard

Naming

Unnamed

Bars issued

None

a turban with armorial steel chakra and necklace. Between the top arms of the trefoil a pair of bulls facing inwards, heads lowered. Between the lower arms an eagle with wings spread sitting on an unsheathed curved sword. Above the whole an elongated star of seven points.

The arms of the trefoil are enamelled as for the obverse with the inscription, in Persian, *Mankera* and *Multan* (left), *Kashmir* (top), *Attok* and *Peshawar* (right). The central disc, enamelled turquoise blue, has the Persian inscription in gold lettering, *Maharaja Ranjit Singh Bahadur walli* (ruler) *Punjab*.

2.

KAUKAB-i-IQBAL-i-PANJAB THE PROPITIOUS STAR OF THE PUNJAB

or

AUSPICIOUS STAR OF THE PUNJAB

or

STAR OF THE PROSPERITY OF THE PUNJAB

There is some confusion surrounding the exact circumstances of the establishment of this award. Several sources refer to it being founded in 1837 to commemorate the marriage of Ranjit Singh's grandson, Nau Nihal Singh. One source, Fauja Singh Bajwa,³ refers to the Ranjit Singh medal having three classes, mainly differentiated by the quality of the precious stones set in it (diamonds, diamonds and emeralds or emeralds only) and this is borne out by examples traced so far. According to this source, all three classes bore, on the obverse, a miniature portrait of Ranjit Singh and his name on the reverse. From the examples seen so far it would appear that each portrait was individually executed and therefore different, and in one example seen the reverse had a flower design rather than Ranjit Singh's name.

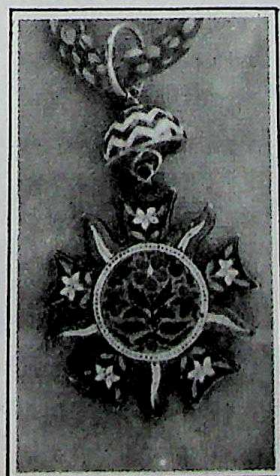
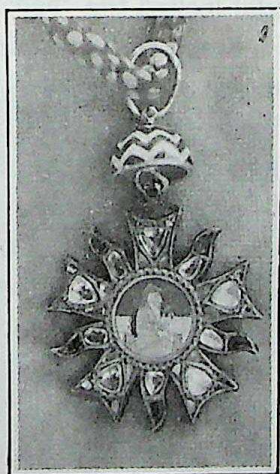
Again according to Fauja Singh Bajwa, the rules for the granting of the award were framed by

Captain C.M. Wade, Political Agent, Ludhiana, and adopted by Ranjit Singh after some minor amendments effected by Sir Henry Fane. The First Class was confined to members of the royal family, foreign princes and distinguished chiefs allied to Ranjit Singh. The Second Class was intended for courtiers, sardars, governors of provinces, General officers and envoys, and carried the title Sardar. The Third Class, which carried with it the title Bahadur, was intended for officers of the rank of Captain to Colonel and deserving civil functionaries, though the military class was distinct from the civil award in that it recorded the degree of merit conferred. An officer distinguishing himself in one action would be awarded the Star. Second or third actions would be recognised by clasps from which the Star would be suspended, each clasp bearing the name of the action. A fourth action would merit a gold cross to be worn above the clasps and further actions would be recognised by additional clasps from which the gold cross would be suspended.⁴ Unfortunately it has not been possible to trace how many clasps or gold crosses were instituted, nor to determine how such clasps and crosses might actually have been worn, given the cord suspension so far noted.

Numbers in each class were limited and rules existed allowing for dismissal from the Order.

2a.

LORD AUCKLAND's AWARD apparently SECOND CLASS



- Obverse* From a central circle five broad arms, similar to those of a Maltese cross, with five narrower arms between. The larger arms set with diamonds, the smaller ones each with one diamond and one emerald. The tips of the narrower arms are pointed and slightly tilted to the right. Within the central circle a miniature painting of Maharaja Ranjit Singh seated on a decorated carpet, facing right. He holds in his left hand a flower, and in his right hand a string of prayer beads. On his right arm is seen the 'Koh-i-Noor' (Mountain of Light) diamond. On his back a black shield. Behind him a section of wall with blue sky above.
- Reverse* The reverse of the central circle has an enamelled flower design in red and green on gold. The broader arms have flower designs and the narrower ones are edged in red enamel.
- Size* 50mm
- Metal* Gold and enamels
- Ribbon* Red cord with traces of yellow, apparently to be worn around the neck.
- Suspension* The medal is suspended from a ring beneath a gold and enamelled bell (or

ceremonial umbrella) shape, the enamelling being in zig-zag pattern. The bell shape in turn has a ring at the top for the cord.

Designer Not known
Naming Unnamed
Bars issued See above note

The example, which is held in the Sheesh Mahal Museum, was awarded to Lord Auckland, Governor General of India, when he visited Lahore in 1838. Man Mohan Singh refers to similar medals being awarded by Ranjit Singh to Captain Wade, as well as to three other British officers (Henry Fane, Mackeson and Osborne).⁵ According to Man Mohan Singh, Wade's medal differed from Lord Auckland's in that the points of the narrower arms were straight. The stones were of a different quality (though not stipulated, probably emeralds only and therefore a medal of the Third Class) and the medal was suspended from a ribbon (not further described).

A similar medal was sold at auction in London in April 1992 but the portrait of Maharaja Ranjit Singh faced left and contained just his head and shoulders on a pale blue background. The arms of the Star were set with green and clear glass rather than gems (according to the auction catalogue), the tips of the smaller arms being pointed but tilted to the left instead of the right and the reverse, enamelled in red, green, blue and white, depicted stylized fish and flowers. The medal lacked the "bell" suspension device and had no ribbon or cord. This version was awarded by Ranjit Singh to Sir Frederick Currie who served in India from 1818 to 1853 and drew up the treaty of peace with the Sikhs on the conclusion of the first Sikh war, as well as the settlement of the Punjab.

The Victoria and Albert Museum in London has a similar example to that of Sir Frederick Currie, though the stones are described as emeralds and rock crystal. The "bell" shaped suspension device has enamelled flowers, rather than the zig-zag pattern previously noted. The reverse has not been inspected. According to the Museum note, the medal came from the collection of Dulip Singh and one assumes this means "collection" rather than the award he wore, given that this would appear to be a Third Class specimen and he would surely have qualified for the First Class.

Another two similarly shaped medals are known, but with portraits other than that of Ranjit Singh. Both specimens are to be found in the Sheesh Mahal Museum, Patiala, amongst the medals of General Henry Charles Van Cortlandt. In discussing their identities it may be beneficial to consider briefly the career of Van Cortlandt.

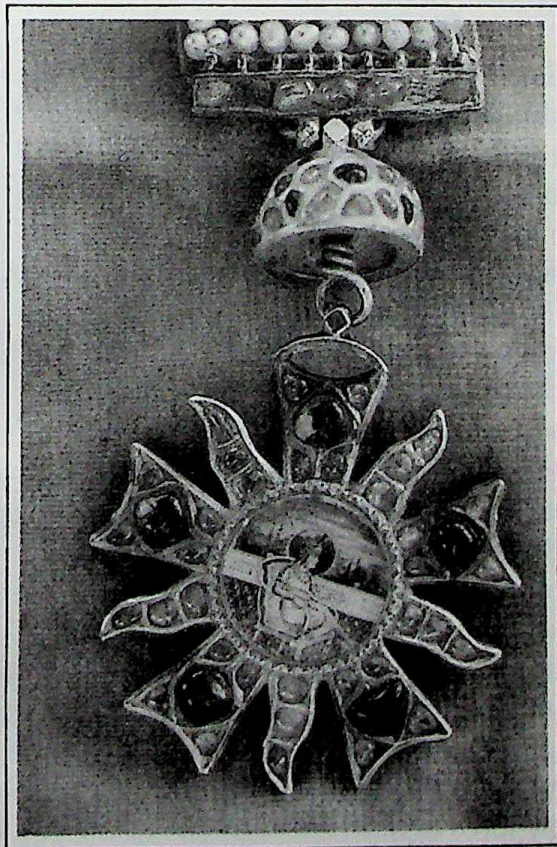
Born in Meerut in either 1814 or 1815 of a British father and Afghan Durrani princess mother, and following an education in England, he entered the service of Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1832 and subsequently took part in several campaigns in the Punjab. In 1842, having attained the rank of Colonel, he served with the Sikh Auxiliary Contingent under Major General Sir George Pollock in the First Afghan War. He was absent from the Lahore Darbar in 1843 when a revolution toppled Maharaja Shere Singh and saw the six year old Dulip Singh ascend the throne. The internal intrigue leading to the outbreak of the First Sikh War in 1845 lies outside the scope of this narrative, suffice to say that Van Cortlandt was employed with the British Army as a Political Agent during that conflict. By the Spring of 1846 Van Cortlandt had been re-admitted to the service of the Lahore Darbar in the rank of General and yet, again, he served with the British forces during the Punjab campaign of 1848-49. The result of this war, of course, was that the Punjab was annexed and Maharaja Dulip Singh pensioned off to England. Van Cortlandt then joined the British service in a civilian capacity and, after service during

the Mutiny of 1857, died in London in 1888.

I have included detail of his career here because it cast doubt in my mind on the supposed identifications of the two remaining medals in this Punjab series, as given on the specimens held by the Sheesh Mahal Museum.

The first of these medals carries the descriptive label: "Obverse. The Maharajah Duleep Singh. Reverse. Granted by Maharajah Duleep Singh, Bahadoor, in recognition of good services and faithfulness of fourteen years to General Cortlandt, Sahib." This same medal is, however, depicted in Man Mohan Singh's book, in which the miniature portrait is identified as that of Nau Nihal Singh.⁶ Given the inscription on the reverse this identification is extremely doubtful. One problem with the identifying label on the Sheesh Mahal specimen was, in my opinion, the reference to fourteen years' service. Given that Dulip Singh succeeded to the throne in 1843, and was deposed in 1849, he was only Maharaja for six years. Even at this time he was only twelve years old and I found difficulty in accepting that the British authorities would have allowed him to create an award at any time after his exile to England. Thanks to Professor Azhar at the Jawarharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and Brigadier Sukhjit Singh MVC of Kapurthala, I feel we are now able to offer a more accurate identification, though there still remains a lingering doubt about the reason behind the medal.

3.

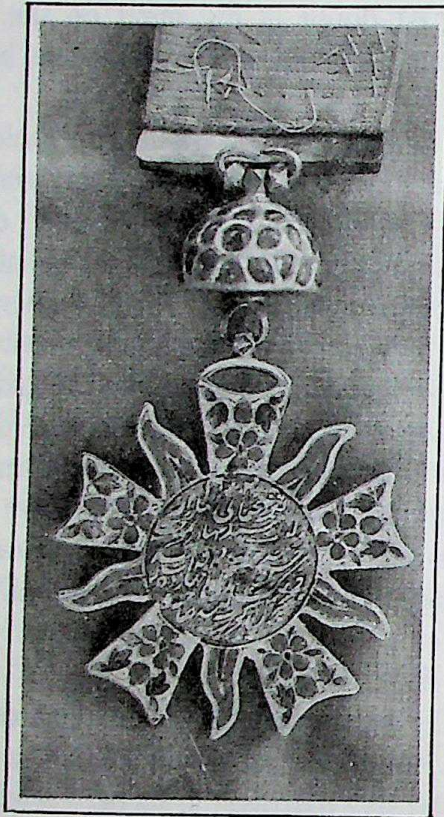


Obverse

From a central circle five broad arms, similar to those of a Maltese cross, with five narrower arms between. The larger arms set with emeralds and rubies, the smaller ones each with three rubies. The tips of the narrower arms are pointed and slightly tilted to the left. Within the central circle a miniature painting of Maharaja Duleep Singh, seated on a gilt throne, facing right with his left leg stretched out before him. Around his head a halo. The throne rests on a blue and gold carpet, a wall behind and trees in the background. The circle and each of the arms of the medal are edged in gold.

Reverse

The reverse has a green enamelled central circle with, in gold, the Persian inscription *1901 Taghma* (sic - should be *Tamgha*) *Tamali Maharaja Daleep Singh Bahadur be mojab Husne Khidmat va Fidayat va Maharal Ke dar Jange Heldli be Jornal Kortland Saheb* (High and Generous Medal of Maharaja Daleep Singh Bahadur on the basis of Good services, loyalty and expertise in the war of Heldli to



General Kortland Saheb. The date 1901 is in the Vikrama Samvat calendar and equates to 1844 A.D.). The broader arms have flower designs and the narrower ones are edged in red enamel.

Size 50mm

Metal Gold and enamels

Ribbon The example seen was suspended from nine strings of pearls, each string having nine pearls. The pearls were hung between ornamental gold bars decorated with emeralds and rubies.

Suspension The medal is suspended from a ring beneath a gold bell (or ceremonial umbrella) shape which is decorated with emeralds and rubies. The bell shape is attached to the lower gold suspension bar of the pearls 'ribbon'.

Designer Not known

Naming Within script on reverse

Bars issued None

I have been unable positively to identify any details of the battle of Heldli, nor to locate the place, but Hari Ram Gupta's "Punjab on the Eve of the First Sikh War, 30 December 1843 - 31 October 1844" may contain the answer. Quoting from the "Abstract of Intelligence from the Punjab" for February 1844, it mentions that "A petition was received from Colonel Courtland mentioning that he had brought Painda Khan⁶ to action and that several men had been killed on both sides."⁷ And again, "A petition was received from Colonel Courtland stating that he had another skirmish with Painda Khan who is in close communication with Mohamed Akbar Khan...."⁸ The Yusufzai Darband clan in the frontier province of the Punjab had defied Sikh rule and occupation and were in open revolt. They were finally subdued by the stratagem of General Dhowkal Singh, commander of the Sikh force in the Hazara area, who conspired to kill the tribal chief, Painda Khan, by poisoning him in September 1844.

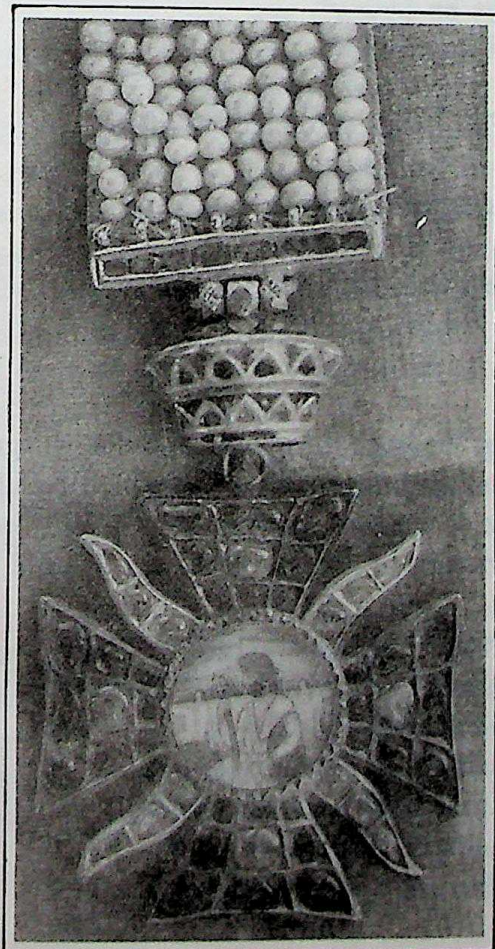
The second medal among the Van Cortlandt group in the Sheesh Mahal Museum carries a label inscribed, "Obverse. Rajah Lal Singh. Reverse. Granted by Rajah Lal Singh, Bahadoor, in recognition of good services and faithfulness to General Cortlandt Sahib."

Lal Singh, lover of the infant Dulip Singh's mother, Rani Jindan, was an adventurer who, by intrigue, had worked his way to a position of immense power within the Punjab. With Tej Singh as commander in chief of the Sikh armies, he was responsible for the first of the Sikh Wars which were eventually to lead to the annexation by the British of the Punjab. On the conclusion of the first Sikh War in 1846 the territory of Kashmir, hitherto a Sikh governance, was made over to the Dogra, Gulab Singh of Jammu. Lal Singh, then still *Wazir* of the Sikh Court, secretly persuaded Shaikh Imam-ud-din, the Sikh Governor of Kashmir, to resist any handover by force of arms. The British responded with an even greater show of arms, supported by troops selected by the now loyal Lahore Darbar, and Shaikh Imam-ud-din's *Vakil*, seeing they were in earnest, exposed Lal Singh's secret role in the affair. Shaikh

Imam-ud-din capitulated and agreed to give evidence against Lal Singh. The latter faced a British court of inquiry, held openly in the presence of other Sikh chiefs. The inquiry found unanimously against him and the chiefs present readily assented to the finding that Lal Singh be deposed and exiled to British India. This indifference reflected his unpopularity, due partly to his affair with Ranjit Singh's widow, partly to his appropriation of State revenues for his own purposes.

The latter included the maintenance of a 'Bodyguard', comprising some 2000 Afghan sowars, four infantry regiments of Hindustanis and two troops of Horse Artillery, all under the command of Van Cortlandt. Indeed, just before the start of the court of inquiry which led to his deposition Lal Singh drew his bodyguard around him, but on announcing the inquiry's verdict the British ordered Van Cortlandt and his subordinate commanders to withdraw their troops and these orders were immediately complied with. Although the date on the medal inscription is 1901 (Vikrama Samvat calendar equating to 1844 A.D.) Lal Singh did not become *Wazir* until 1845. Indeed, until October 1844 his title was still 'Misser' and the "Abstract of Intelligence from the Punjab" for September 1844 notes that "Sirdar Jawahar Singh, the maternal uncle of Maharaja Duleep Singh, has succeeded in removing Misser Lal Singh from the guardianship of the Maharaja and he himself took charge of that duty." ⁹ Nevertheless, on 21 October 1844 the title of Raja was conferred on Lal Singh. ¹⁰ Although I have been unable to ascertain either the formation date of Lal Singh's 'Bodyguard' or of Van Cortlandt's assumption of command, it may be that the medal was given in recognition of this. The inclusion of the title Raja in the inscription, and the date 1901 (1844 A.D.) suggests that it may have been given in the last two months of that year.

4.

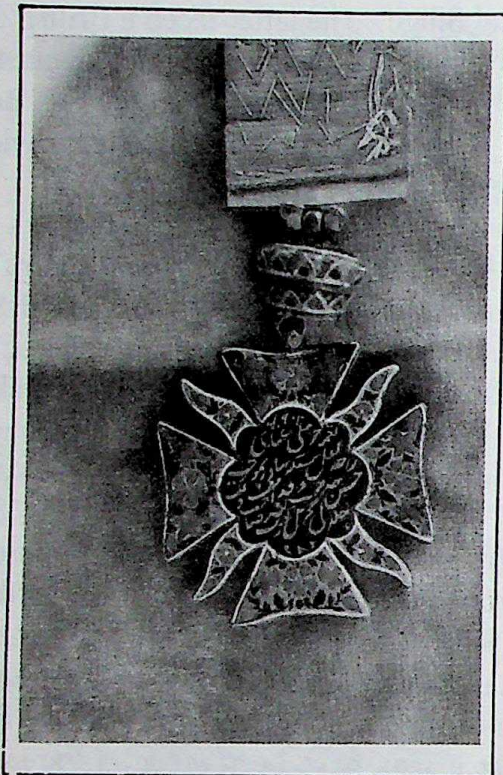
*Obverse*

From a central circle five broad arms, similar to those of a Maltese cross, with five narrower arms between them. The larger arms set with emeralds and rubies, the smaller ones each with three rubies. The tips of the narrower arms are pointed and slightly tilted to the left. Within the central circle a miniature painting of Raja Lal Singh seated and facing left. In his right hand a sheathed sword and under his left arm a blue and gold shield. Behind, a wall with trees and blue sky in the background. The circle and each of the arms of the medal are edged in gold.

Reverse

A blue enamelled centre with, in gold, the Persian inscription 1901 *Taghma* (sic - should be *Tamgha*) *Husmali Inayali Raja Lal Singh Bahadur be mojab Husne Khidmat va Fidayat va Hikmat Jalali be General Kortland Saheb* "High medal given by Raja Lal Singh Bahadur on the basis of his good services, loyalty and wisdom to General





- Size* 50mm
Metal Gold and enamels
Ribbon The example seen was suspended from eight strings of pearls, each string having nine pearls. The pearls were hung between ornamental gold bars decorated with emeralds and rubies.
Suspension The medal is suspended from a ring beneath a gold crown shape which is decorated with emeralds and rubies. The crown shape, which is also enamelled, is attached to the lower gold suspension bar of the pearl 'ribbon'.
Designer Not known
Naming Within the script on the reverse
Bars issued None

Notes:

1. Man Mohan Singh, "Maharaja Ranjit Singh as Patron of the Arts". Bombay: MARG Publications, 1981.
2. H.E. Gillingham, "Notes on the Decorations and Medals of the French Colonies and Protectorates". New York: 1928.
3. Fauja Singh Bajwa, ""Military System of the Sikhs". Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1964.
4. *ibid.*
5. Man Mohan Singh, *op.cit.*
6. Painsa Khan of Darband (literally meaning "Closed Door" because the approach to the village was so constricted that it was akin to entering a room with a closed door) was a Yusufzai tribal chief who succeeded Fateh Khan of Panjtar in defying the rule of the Sikhs in the former NWFP Yusufzai area, in which were situated the important townships of Attock, Peshawar, Jamrud, Nowshera and Mardan.
7. Hari Ram Gupta, "Punjab on the Eve of the First Sikh War, 30 December 1843 - 31 October 1844". Publications Bureau, Punjab University, Chandigarh, 1956, reprinted 1975. (p 222 - Abstract of Intelligence from the Punjab, Lahore, 18-20 February 1844).
8. *ibid.* (p235 - Abstract of Intelligence from the Punjab, Lahore, 29 February 1844)
9. *ibid.* (p466 - Abstract of Intelligence from the Punjab, Lahore, 27 September 1844)
10. *ibid.* (p491 - Abstract of Intelligence from the Punjab, Lahore, 21 October 1844)

CHAPTER 3

BAHAWALPUR

Area

16,434 square miles

Population

1931 - 984,612

Undoubtedly one of the most prolific of medal producing States, the ruling family of Daudpotas claimed descent from Abbas, uncle of the Prophet, and the Abbasid Khalifas of Egypt. Ancestors of the family came from Sind when, in 1737, their Chief, Daud Khan came into conflict with Nadir Shah's Governor in Sind. Driven across the Indus they obtained possession of the tract now known as Bahawalpur and established an independent state there. Mubarak, son of Daud Khan, expanded this territory and his son, Nawab Bahawal Khan III (1825-1852), consolidated his power. With the rise of Ranjit Singh's Sikh State Bahawal Khan sought British protection, in fact effectively provided by the Treaty of Lahore, but a separate Treaty was signed on 22 February 1833, supplemented by a further Treaty of February 1835, which guaranteed the independence of the State. During the First Afghan War of 1839-42 and again during the Punjab Campaign of 1848-49, particularly at Multan, the Bahawalpur army cooperated with the British, for which the Amir received territory and an annuity.

Bahawal Khan III was succeeded by his son Sadiq Muhammad Khan III who only lasted a year before being ousted and forced to seek refuge in British territory. According to the custom of the State the name of the ruler was changed on accession, alternating with few exceptions between Muhammad Bahawal Khan and Sadiq Muhammad Khan, though the descent from the Abbasid Khalifas is also reflected in the family name Abbasi, as it is in one of the Orders. Most of the medals which follow were created during the reign of Sadiq Muhammad Khan V (1907-1947). Unfortunately, though tentative identifications have been made for many of the pieces confirmation has not been forthcoming. Similarly, there is much confusion about the correct ribbons, many of them having been changed on one or more occasion during the life of the award in question. The late Brigadier Sahibzada Mohammad Abbas Abbasi, heir to Sadiq Muhammad Khan V, had been a member of the Orders and Medals Research Society and had corresponded at length about the ribbons of the Bahawalpur awards. It is his designations which have been accepted for this book, though areas of disagreement with other ribbon collectors are highlighted.

There are five designs which appear frequently on the obverse of the medals and several individual designs which appear only once. To avoid repetition, the five frequent designs have been designated Types 1 - 5 as follows:

Type 1. A bust of the young Sadiq Muhammad Khan V, facing left, in a rich silk high-necked tunic overlaid with lace and wearing a ceremonial cap of state encrusted with diamonds and pearls. Around his neck a five string pearl and stone necklace. Below the bust a half wreath with the name of the manufacturer, SPINK LONDON, beneath. Around, the Arabic inscription *ba-Fazlah taalalah [or] toali Sadiq Mohammed Abbasi Khamis. Farman rawai mamlakat khudadat Bahawalpur* (By the Grace of God Sadiq Mohammed Abbasi Fifth. Ruler of God Gifted Kingdom of Bahawalpur).

(Note: The author has in his collection the original photograph from which the medal portrait was made)

Type 2. The bust of the young Sadiq Muhammad Khan V, facing left, in full dress military uniform but without headdress. Around, the inscription as for Type 1.

Type 3. As for Type 2 but with three Breast Stars of Orders worn below the row of medals.

Type 4. The bust of an older Sadiq Muhammad Khan V, facing left, in full dress military uniform with Fez or Tarbush headdress but without tassle. Around, the inscription as for Type 1.

Type 5. As for Type 4, but the Fez/Tarbush headdress has a tassle hanging at the rear. Around, the inscription as for Type 1.



Type 1



Type 2



Type 3



Type 4



Type 5

On some medals the bust relief seems to have been struck with the Fez worn at a more acute angle than in Type 4, but in fact it is the same bust, with the addition of the Fez tassle.

As mentioned, there are other designs apart from Types 1-5 but they tend to occur in single examples only and so are described with the relevant medals.

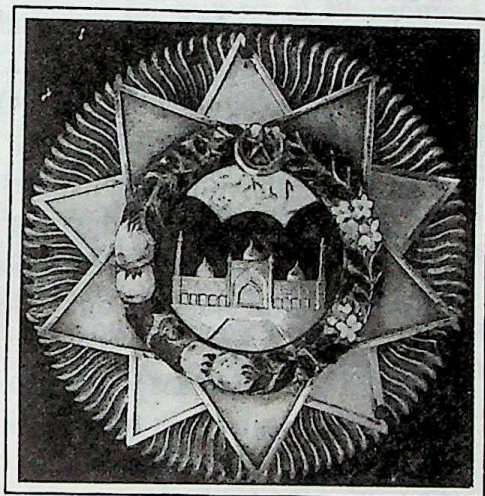
6

IMTIAZ-I-SATLEJ ORDER or DISTINCTION OF SATLEJ

Believed to have been the premier Order of Bahawalpur, though this has not been confirmed, it was divided into five classes. No statutes for the Order have been traced.

First Class

Breast Star



Obverse

A silver disc in the form of sun rays. On it a five pointed silver star superimposed on a similar star in silver gilt. In the centre a silver gilt and enamel representation of a palace (possibly Sadiq Garh) with, above, a scroll and the Arabic inscription *Imtiaz Satlej* (the title of the Order). Around, a wreath with six five-petalled white flowers on the right side and four different white flowers, possibly cotton blossoms, on the left side with star and crescent at the top.

Reverse

Plain but with back plate of manufacturer

Size

70mm

Metal

Silver, silver gilt and enamel

Ribbon

A sash 10cms dusky pink with olive green edges (7mm) and two 11m stripes either side of the centre.

Suspension Pin

Designer Spink & Son, London

Naming None

Bars issued None

Neck Badge

Though no example has been traced it is assumed that a neck badge was worn, probably similar in design to that for Second Class. A ribbon is known, 57mm dusky pink with 4mm olive green edges and two 6mm olive green stripes either side of centre. This was probably the ribbon for the neck badge.

Second Class

Breast Star

Though no example has been seen it is known that a breast star was worn, 70mm in diameter and made of silver, silver gilt and enamel. It was probably similar in design to that for First Class, though whether a sash would have been worn is doubtful.

Neck Badge



Obverse

As for the central part of the First Class Breast Star, a representation of a palace in silver gilt. Around, a white enamel border with six silver gilt stars and above, a white scroll with the Arabic inscription giving the title of the Order. The whole surrounded by a green enamel wreath with seven five-petalled white enamel flowers on the right side and five different white enamel flowers, possibly cotton blossom, on the left side. Above, a silver gilt star and crescent with pearl shaped suspender and below, a silver gilt open book with crossed sabre and quill pen.

Reverse

Plain but with back plate of manufacturer

Size 55mm

Metal Silver gilt and enamel

Ribbon 45mm. Edges are 3mm and centre stripes 5mm

Suspension As described above

Designer Spink & Son

Naming None

Bars issued None

Third Class

A neck badge identical to that for Second Class except that the border and scroll around the centre are in silver gilt instead of enamel. Size 55mm, the same ribbon was used as for Second Class.

Fourth Class

A breast badge identical in design to the neck badges described above, but all in silver gilt and measuring 36mm. Suspended from a ribbon 32mm with 2mm edges and 3mm centre stripes.

Fifth Class

As for Fourth Class except that the badge was in silver. The same ribbon was used.

A miniature of the Third Class is known, worn as a breast badge.

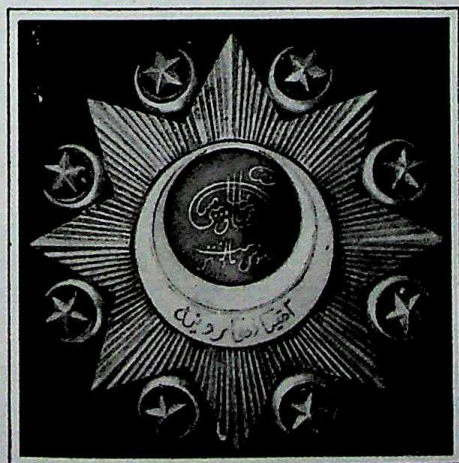
7.

IMTIAZ-I-HAROONIA (KHALIF HAROON-UR-RASHID)

Though no statutes have been found for this award it was obviously created at the time of the assumption of full powers of Muhammad Bahawal Khan V. Though he succeeded in 1899 he was not invested with full powers until 1903. He died at Aden on 15 February 1907. There is confusion over the correct colours of the first issue ribbon, and also over the date on which the change was effected. The illustrations used here were photographed at the Sheesh Mahal Museum, Patiala, Punjab, where the exhibits date from the 1930s. The main colour of the ribbon was grey. Other collectors refer to various shades of green. Some references give the dates of the first issue ribbon as 1925-1935 while others refer to 1925-1953 (both obviously wrong, given the date of the award). There is no obvious date in Bahawalpur's history, or that of Nawab Sir Sadiq Muhammad Khan V, to suggest why either date should have been commemorated by a change. In 1935 he attended the Silver Jubilee in London and in 1953 he attended the Coronation in London, so either might have provided an opportunity, but this seems doubtful.

First Class

Star



Obverse

An eight pointed star with rays. Between each point a star and crescent device. In the centre a red enamel disc with gilt Persian inscription *1321 Hijri Khan Abbasi Jaloos Maimanat Manoos* (1321 Hejira equates to 1903/4 A.D. *Jaloos* means accession to a throne and *Manoos* means Associated, intimate, friendly, so 'Friendly Medal on Accession'). On a white enamel crescent around the red disc the Persian inscription *Imtiaz Haroonia* (Order or Distinction of Haroonia)

Reverse

Plain

Size

78mm

Metal

Gilt and enamel

Ribbon

First issue. 10.2cms with centre (72mm or 77mm) grey or shades of

Indian Princely Medals

pale green and edges of golden yellow, black and red (each 4mm or 5mm)

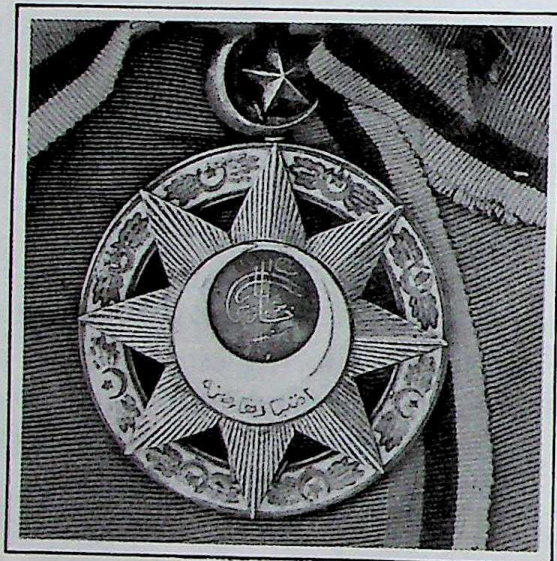
Second issue. 9.7cms; black (7mm), yellow (7mm), white (23mm), red (9.5mm), green (9.5mm) red, white, yellow, black

Suspension Pin

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None



Badge

Obverse The device of the Star but without the star and crescent motifs between points. The whole resting on a garter of white enamel with red star and crescent and green leaf designs between points

Reverse Plain

Size 42mm

Metal Gilt and enamel

Ribbon See above

Suspension Star and Crescent fixed to top of badge and then to Sash

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None



Second Class

Star

Obverse As for First Class except that it had six points, not eight

Reverse Plain

Size 70mm

Metal Gilt and enamel

Ribbon See below

Suspension Pin

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

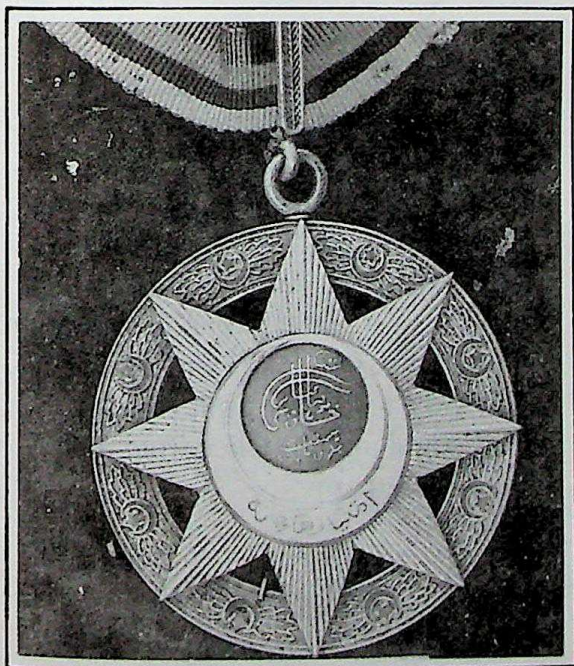
Bars issued None

Neck Badge

<i>Obverse</i>	Identical to the First Class Sash Badge
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	42mm
<i>Metal</i>	Gilt and enamel
<i>Ribbon</i>	First Issue. 45mm; Grey or green centre (27mm) with edges of golden yellow, black and red (each 3mm). Second Issue. 45mm; Centre green (5mm) edged by red (4mm), white (10mm), yellow and black outer (each 3mm)
<i>Suspension</i>	Loop behind Star and Crescent device
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Probably unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	Non

Third Class**Neck Badge**

<i>Obverse</i>	Similar to that for Second Class except that the garter on which the Star rests is gilt rather than enamel, only the red star and crescent devices being enamelled.
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Gilt and enamel
<i>Ribbon</i>	First Issue. 36mm; Grey or green centre (18mm) with yellow, black and red edges each 3mm. Second Issue. 31mm; centre green (3mm) edged by red (3mm), white (7mm), yellow and black outer (each 2mm)
<i>Suspension</i>	Plain ring at top fixed to loop bar suspender for neck ribbon
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	The specimen seen was unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known



Fourth Class

A breast badge similar in design to the Third Class neck badge except that the only enamel work was in the central disc and crescent motif. The outer garter and the star were all gilt. Two strikings have been seen; one with high relief in the metal work and one similar to all other Class examples seen for this award, with the metal work in low relief. The ribbon was identical to that used for the Third Class neck badge.

Fifth Class

Identical to Fourth Class except that the metal work was silver. The same ribbon was used.

No miniatures have been traced for this Order.

8

IMTIAZ-I-ABBASIA

No statutes have been found for this award though one example of the Fifth Class is known, named to an army officer. Whether or not this was a purely military award has not been determined.

First Class

Star

Obverse

An eight pointed silver star. In the centre a black enamelled star with, at its centre, a red enamelled disc having three ears of corn and four small stars above, all in gilt. Around, a gilt edged white enamel garter with gilt inscription in Persian; *Sadiq Dost* (Sincere Friend). Below the black star a gilt crescent. The central motif is taken from the State coat of arms.

Reverse

Plain

Size

81 mm

Metal

Silver and enamel

Ribbon

See page 27

Suspension

Pin

Designer

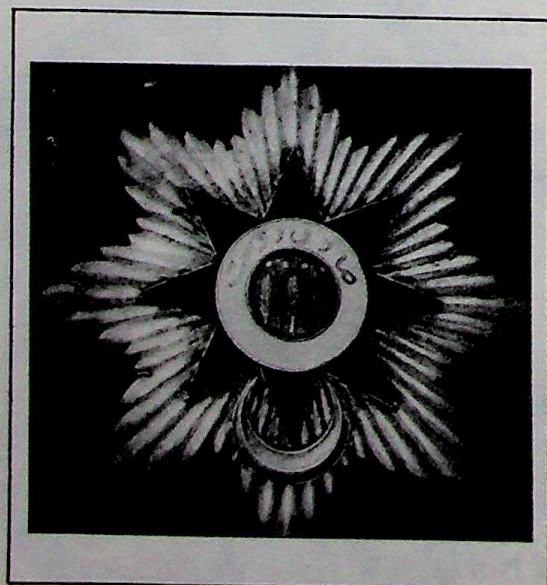
see below

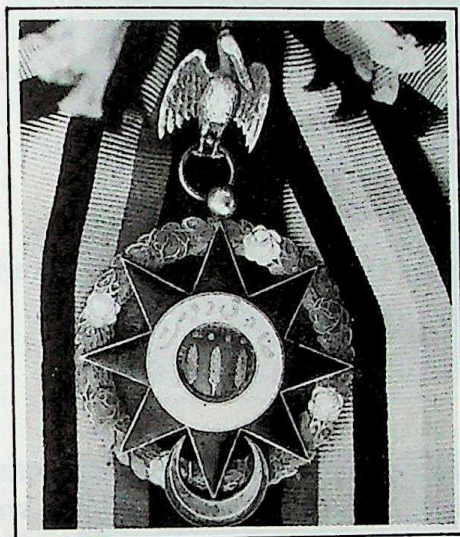
Naming

Unnamed

Bars issued

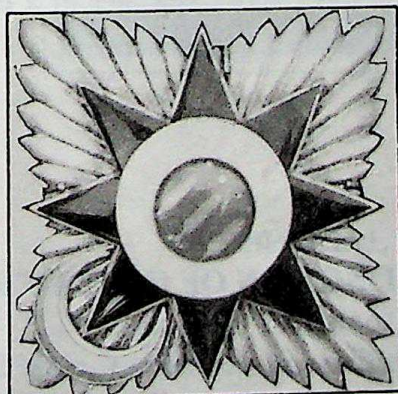
None



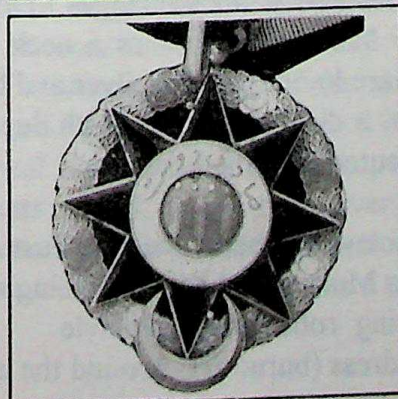
Badge

- Obverse* The black star and gilt crescent motif as used in the centre of the Star, the whole resting on a wreath of green enamelled leaves with red and white flowers
- Reverse* Plain
- Size* 54mm
- Metal* Gilt and enamel
- Ribbon* A sash 10.2cms with central black (30mm) edged by equal widths (6mm) red, yellow, black, white, yellow, black
- Suspension* Ball and ring at top of wreath attached to a silver Pelican which attaches to the Sash bow. Pelicans were depicted as supporters in the State coat of arms.
- Designer* See page 28
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* None

A set of insignia is known in which the Sash Badge was worn as a neck badge suspended from a 50mm ribbon. This set also contained a miniature medal consisting of the badge design but with the wreath in gilt rather than enamel. It was suspended from a straight bar rather than the pelican device and had an ornamental top suspension bar on the ribbon.

**Second Class****Star**

- Obverse* As for First Class except that the silver star has four points instead of eight

Neck Badge

- Obverse* As for the First Class Sash badge except the leaves on the wreath are not enamelled and the whole is suspended from a plain oval loop
- Size* 51mm
- Metal* Gilt and enamel
- Ribbon* 50mm; Central black (14mm) and remaining stripes 3mm each
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* None

Third Class

Seen as both a neck and breast badge identical to that worn for Second Class except that none of the supporting gilt wreath is enamelled. Two widths of neck ribbon have been seen, 43mm and 39mm, the latter having the central black stripe of 9mm and other stripes 2.5mm. The example fitted as a breast badge was suspended from a 37mm ribbon through a plain ball and ring suspender. It had an ornamental bar at the top of the ribbon depicting a leaf design.

Fourth Class

A breast badge, 38mm in diameter, identical in design to the Third Class breast badge version. The ribbon was 32mm wide, the central black stripe being 7mm and the other stripes 2mm.

Fifth Class

As for Fourth Class except that the metal is silver. The example in the author's collection is named on the reverse in engraved capitals, the name of the recipient around the reverse of the wreath and the recipient's army unit on the reverse of the central red enamelled disc. The medal, which is mounted in a group, has an ornamental bar at the top of the ribbon depicting a leaf design. The example of the Fourth Class medal held by the Sheesh Mahal Museum was unnamed but it is assumed that awarded medals would have been named as well.

A miniature medal is known for the Fifth Class

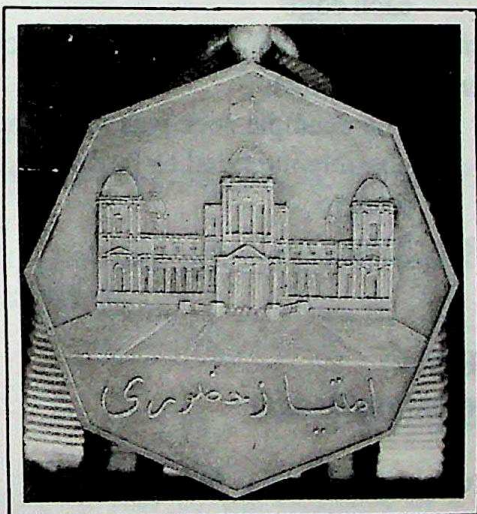
It is not known for certain who designed the above series of awards. One example has been seen in a fitted case bearing the marks of Imrye and Lawrence of Simla and Lahore, another in a case of Spink and Son, London.

9 **IMTIAZ HUZOORI** **(CLOSE TO ROYALTY/ORDER OF ATTENDANT/(DISTINCTION OF COURTIER)**

No statutes have been found for this award. It was issued in three classes; First (gold), Second (silver) and Third (bronze), and all three seen by the author were mounted as breast badges. Different ribbon widths, however, suggest that at least the First Class may have been worn as a neck badge though this has not been confirmed. Two different styles of reverse are known for the silver and bronze medals, suggesting a second striking with the dies being engraved by a different artist. Both depict the palace and the same inscription, but one version is more crudely executed than the other.

Obverse

An octagonal medal with the bust of Sadiq Muhammad Khan V facing right, wearing robes and Arab-style headdress (burnoos). Around the edge



the Persian inscription as on Type 1-5 medals: *ba-Fazlah taalah [or] toali Sadiq Mohammed Abbasi Khamis. Farman rawai mumlukat khudadaad Bahawalpur* (By the Grace of God Sadiq Mohammed Abbasi Fifth, Ruler of God gifted Kingdom of Bahawalpur)

Reverse

A palace (probably Sadiq Garh) with the Persian inscription *Imtiaz Huzoori*, the title of the Order.

Size

39mm

Metal

Gold, silver or bronze

Ribbon

The three examples seen by the author were all on the same ribbon, 39mm; white with green/red/green (2mm/3mm/2mm) set 6mm from each edge. Each colour is edged with a fine black line. Other examples are known of 50mm and 35mm

Suspension

Ball and ring at a corner of two sides

Designer

Not known. The calligraphy of the reverse inscription varies, though the text remains the same, suggesting at least two separate strikings using different dies.

Naming

The examples seen were all unnamed

Bars issued None

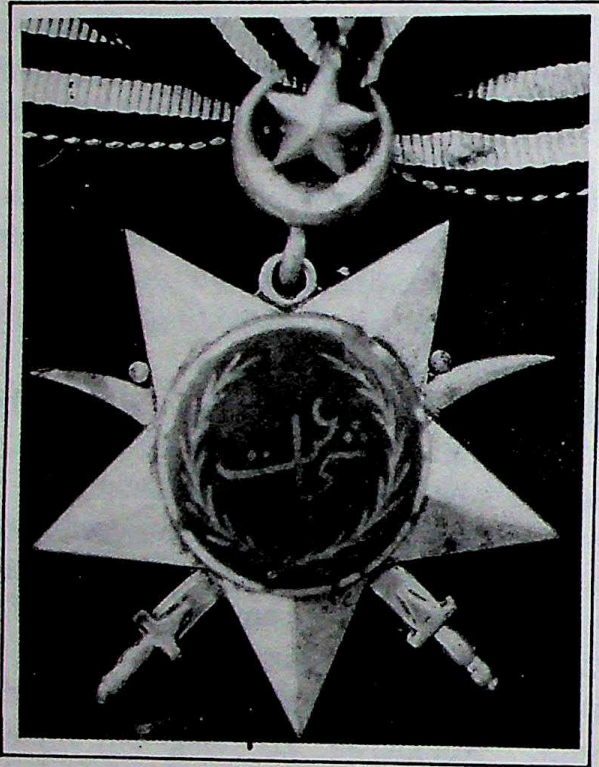
10**SPECIAL BADGE FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

The existence of this award is only known by reference to its ribbon. No actual example of the medal has been seen. There is confusion over dates. The original ribbon, 60mm wide, was of alternate stripes of deep blue and cream/off white, each 12mm wide. Some references date this from 1883 but other sources refer to 1880-1890. It was used during the reign of Nawab Sir Sadiq Muhammad Khan IV. The second ribbon, of the same dimensions as the first but with the cream/off white replaced by deep red, is dated from either 1904 or 1905 and was used during the reign of Nawab Muhammad Bahawal Khan Abbasi V (perhaps, therefore, the date should have been 1907). The width of ribbon suggests a neck badge but, given the general British attitude towards such State awards in the late nineteenth century, as described in the opening chapter, it is possible that each took the form of a brooch with the ribbon worn as a backing.

11

SHUJAAT MEDAL/BADGE FOR BRAVERY

Worn as a neck badge



Obverse A five pointed silver star with crossed sabres behind. In the centre a red enamel disc with gilt wreath around the edge and inscription *Shujaat* (Bravery) at centre. The whole surmounted by star and crescent

Reverse Plain

Size 39mm between sabre points

Metal Silver and enamel

Ribbon 35mm; blue with two white stripes, each 2mm, set 2.5mm and 7.5mm from each edge

Suspension Loop set behind star and crescent

Designer Not known

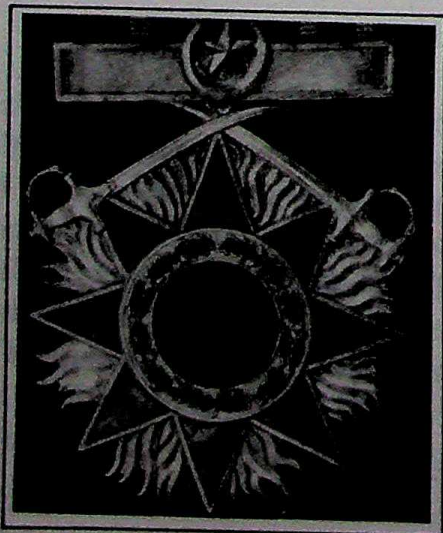
Naming The example seen was unnamed but possibly intended to be named on reverse

Bars issued None

12

ISTIDAD-I-HARBIYA
(War (Military) Efficiency Decoration/Badge)

Awarded in two classes; First (gold) and Second (silver), both worn as breast badges

First Class

Obverse An eight pointed red enamelled star set upon a flaming ground with crossed tulwars above, all in gilt. In the centre of the star a blue enamelled disc with gilt inscription in Arabic; 786 *Istadaad Harbia*. (The three digit number 786 is a chronogram for *Bism'illah-e-Rahman-e-Rahim* (In the name of Allah the Beneficent, the Merciful). *Istadaad Harbia* means (War Efficiency or Readiness to War). The blue central disc surrounded by a gilt garter with green enamel leaves. The whole surmounted by a plain suspension bar

	with star and crescent at centre
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	40mm between sabre hilts
<i>Metal</i>	Gilt and enamel
<i>Ribbon</i>	27mm; blue with six 1mm red stripes 4mm apart
<i>Suspension</i>	Straight bar
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly Spink & Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	The example seen was unnamed but possibly intended to be named on reverse
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known

A miniature of the First Class is known to exist, 21mm. It was contained in a properly fitted case with the full size medal, the case bearing the markings of Spink & Son, London.

Second Class

Identical to First Class except that the medal was all silver with the centre disc in gilt.

It is not known if the difference between First and Second Class was identified when the ribbon alone was worn.

13

CAMPAIGN MEDALS 1845 and 1880

Known only by the existence of a ribbon supposedly used for both medals, neither medal has been seen, nor is it known which campaigns are commemorated. The ribbon is 32mm wide, a 16mm black centre edged by dark green and outer royal purple stripes each 4mm wide.

14

GREAT WAR STAR 1914-18

Two versions are known, though it has not been possible to ascertain why this should be, nor if there was a difference in award criteria.



First Version

Obverse

A five pointed star with star and crescent in the upper segment. In the centre an open wreath with the Persian inscription *Jang-e-'Azam* (Great War). Below, the dates in both Arabic and Roman numerals 1914-19.

Reverse

Plain

Size 45mmx38m
Metal Bronze
Ribbon Two versions seen.

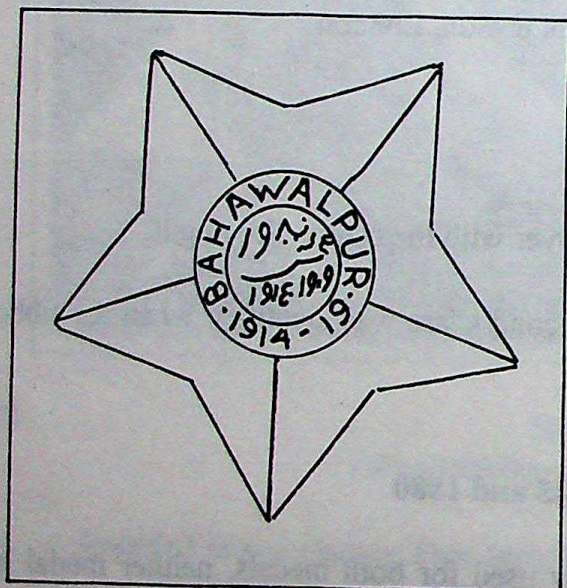
First. 33mm; central green stripe (11mm) with black (10mm) each side and narrow (1mm) green edges.
Second. 40mm; same colours, 2mm edges with three equal stripes of 12mm. This size would not fit the suspender bar for this medal

Suspension Straight bar suspender with leaf design attached to star and crescent at top of medal by a small loop

Designer Not known

Naming Impressed capitals on reverse

Bars issued None



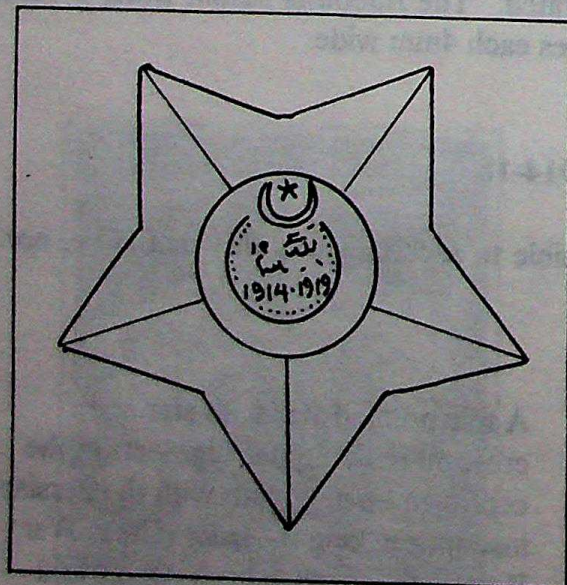
Second Version

Obverse

A five pointed star. In the centre the Arabic dates 1914-19 surrounded by the inscription in English, BAHAWALPUR 1914-19.

Reverse

The reverse of the star is shaped as for the obverse. In the centre an inscription but the illustration has not allowed for translation. Below, the Roman numerals 1914-19. Surrounded by a wreath with star and crescent device at the top.



Size 48mm diameter

Metal Bronze

Ribbon Apparently fitted with the narrower version described above

Suspension As for first version

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None

15

NORTH WEST FRONTIER MEDAL 1914-19

This medal has also been seen referred to as NORTH WEST FRONTIER 1914-18, FRONTIER SERVICE 1914-20 and INDIAN FRONTIER MEDAL 1914-19.



- Obverse* Type 3.
Reverse The central figure of a mounted camel sowar with others in the background. Behind, mountains and trees. Below, a Persian inscription (though the example seen did not allow for translation) and the Arabic date 1914-19.
- Size* 37mm
Metal Known in both gilt metal and bronze. It is not known if a silver version was also issued.
Ribbon 36mm; pale pink with 2.5mm pale blue stripes edged with fine black lines 2.5mm from each edge
Suspension Ball and ring
Designer Spink, London (on reverse below camel foot)
Naming Impressed in capitals
Bars issued None

16

KOT SABZAL CAMPAIGN MEDAL 1930-31

Kot Sabzal is a small village at 28° 10' N, 69° 50' W, but I have been unable to determine anything about this campaign



- Obverse* Type 3.
Reverse A mounted lancer and two mounted camel sowars leading a body of infantry. Above, the Persian inscription *Ma'rika Kot Sabzal* (Kot Sabzal Campaign - Ma'rika actually means fight or field of battle). Below, the date 1930-31.
- Size* 37mm
Metal Silver
Ribbon 32mm; Centre purple (20mm) edged by green/yellow/green each 2mm.

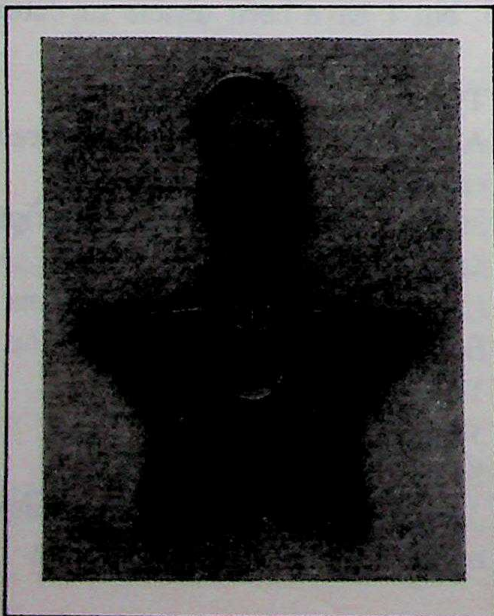
- Suspension* Both straight bar and scroll bar, each fitted with claw, are known
- Designer* Spink, London (on reverse below horse hoof)
- Naming* Impressed capitals, no unit
- Bars issued* Not known, probably none

17

OVERSEAS SERVICE MEDAL 1939-45

- Obverse* Type 4.
- Reverse* Around the left edge a leaf frond crossed by a tulwar, point uppermost. On the right side the Persian inscription *Jang-e-'Azam thani 1939-45 sanah* (Second Great War years 1939-45)
- Size* An octagonal medal 37mm across
- Metal* Bronze
- Ribbon* 35mm. Central purple stripe of 3mm edged on either side by 1mm cream, 2mm black, 10mm cream, 2mm black.
- Suspension* Rather crude ball and loop fixed at centre of one side
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* Not known, probably none

18

VICTORY STAR 1939-45

- Obverse* A five pointed star, the uppermost point truncated and fitted with the cap of state as depicted in the Type 1 obverse. In the centre of the medal a star and crescent surrounded by a wreath. Below, on a scroll in Persian *Nusrat 1939-45* (Victory 1939-45)
- Reverse* Plain
- Size* 42mm x 49mm
- Metal* Dark bronze
- Ribbon* 35mm; 11mm black, 2mm each red, white, blue, green, red yellow, 1mm black, 11mm red
- Suspension* Fixed ring as part of cap of state
- Designer* Not known

Naming Apparently unnamed, though plain reverse may have been intended for name

Bars issued Not known, probably none

19

MILITARY GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL

This is one of the Bahawalpur medals whose ribbons cause much confusion. That there were two issues of ribbon seems in little doubt. As stated earlier, I use Mohammed Abbas Abbasi's designation of Military General Service though, with regard to the first issue ribbon, some have referred to it as Military Long Service (original issue) while others have it as Good Conduct (Military). With regard to the second issue ribbon, I have seen both Army General Service and Army Long Service (second issue).

Obverse Type 5.

Reverse A central oval shield with three star and crescent motifs. Around the shield a display of flags, rifles, cannons and cannon balls resting on a straight scroll with the Persian inscription *Khidmaat Ammah Harbia* (General Services of War)

Size 36mm

Metal Cupro nickel

Ribbon **First Issue (1924-36 or 38).** 38mm watered; 2.5mm black edges, narrow yellow stripes and the centre in rainbow effect merging from red on the left through white centre to green on the right

Second Issue 39mm; Edges of red (3mm), blue (2mm) red (3mm) with a pale green centre (23mm). The author's example is mounted from this though some claim it was not adopted and that a modified design was used;

Possible Third Issue 35mm; Edges of red (2.5mm) black (2mm) red (2.5mm) with pale green centre (21mm). One example is known of this ribbon in ladies' bow form with mounting bar inscribed SPINK and SON Ltd, 5 KING St, SW1



- Suspension* Claw and ball fitted to scrolled bar with stars at each end. The ribbon is also fitted with a straight top bar with star and crescent and leaf design
- Designer* Not known but possibly Spink of London
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* None known

A miniature mounted on the Third type ribbon is known, with ornamental top suspension bar.

20

CIVIL GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL

Another of the Bahawalpur medals whose ribbons cause much confusion. That there were two issues of ribbon seems in little doubt. Again, I use Mohammed Abbas Abbasi's designation though, with regard to the first issue, some have referred to it as Civil Long Service (original issue) while others have it as Good Conduct (Civil). With regard to the second issue ribbon, I have seen Civil Long Service (second issue).



- Obverse* Type 5.
- Reverse* The State coat of arms with, above, the Arabic inscription *Khidmaat Ammah Sadiq Dost* (General Services Sincere [or Faithful/True] Friend)
- Size* 36mm
- Metal* Cupro nickel
- Ribbon* **First Issue (1924-36 or 38).** 35mm watered; 2.5mm blue edges, narrow red stripes and the centre in rainbow effect merging from blue on the left through white centre to orange on the right.
Second Issue 34mm; pale green with centre stripes of scarlet (5mm), black (3mm), scarlet (5mm)
- Suspension* Claw and ball fitted to scrolled bar
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* Probably none

A miniature is known, mounted on the Second type ribbon with ornamental top suspension bar.

21

ARMY LONG SERVICE MEDAL

Another of the Bahawalpur medals whose ribbon causes much confusion, due in part to the fact that there was also a Military Long Service Medal, though I think it may have superseded this medal. As stated earlier, I use Mohammed Abbas Abbasi's designation though some have referred to the ribbon as either Military or Civil General Service (original issue). It appears on a medal in the author's collection which forms part of a group thought to have been correctly mounted by the wearer and not touched since then.



<i>Obverse</i>	Type 2.
<i>Reverse</i>	The monogram of Sadiq Muhammad Khan with coronet, star and crescent above and the Persian inscription <i>Khidmaat Husna</i> (Excellent Services) below. The whole surrounded by an open wreath
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	38mm; Olive green edges (5mm), yellow (4mm), red (9mm) and a central white stripe (2mm), red, yellow, olive green
<i>Suspension</i>	Claw and swivel ball to scrolled bar with stars at ends
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Neatly engraved capitals
<i>Bars issued</i>	Probably none

22

MILITARY LONG SERVICE MEDAL

I have seen the ribbon of this medal referred to as Civil Long Service (second issue) - again! I believe this medal probably replaced the Army Long Service Medal.



<i>Obverse</i>	Type 5
<i>Reverse</i>	Within a central oval, a tree surmounted by star and crescent Around the oval a display of flags, rifle butts, sword hilts, cannons, cannon balls resting on a curved scroll with the Persian inscription <i>Taweel Khidmat Harbia</i> (Long War Service)
<i>Size</i>	36mm
<i>Metal</i>	Cupro nickel

<i>Ribbon</i>	39mm; olive green with a central red stripe (2mm) edged with white (2.5mm) and at each side, black (2mm) edged with white (2.5mm)
<i>Suspension</i>	Claw fitted to ornamental straight suspender decorated with leaf design.
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	Probably none

A miniature is known, with ornamental top suspension bar.

23

CIVIL LONG SERVICE MEDAL

Another of the Bahawalpur medals whose ribbons cause much confusion. That there were two issues of ribbon seems in little doubt. As stated earlier, I use Mohammed Abbas Abbasi's designation though, with regard to the first issue ribbon, some have referred to it as Military General Service (original issue). There seems to be no disagreement on the second issue.



<i>Obverse</i>	Type 5.
<i>Reverse</i>	As for the Military Long Service except that the flags and other military trappings are replaced by two species of leaf frond and the Persian inscription reads <i>Taweel Khidmat</i> (Long Service)
<i>Size</i>	36mm
<i>Metal</i>	Cupro nickel
<i>Ribbon</i>	First Issue 39mm; red edges (5mm), yellow (4mm), green (9mm) and a central white stripe (3mm). Second Issue 38mm; olive green with diagonal stripes bottom left to top right of white/black/white each 2mm.
<i>Suspension</i>	Claw fitted to ornamental straight suspender with leaf design.
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	Probably none

A miniature is known, mounted on the Second issue ribbon with ornamental top suspension bar.

The following four medals are only known by reference to ribbons. No examples of the medals have yet been found.

24 **LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL 1860**

One source gives the date as 1890. Two ribbon descriptions are known. One is blue with a central yellow stripe, the other black with a central yellow stripe. The most common width is 31mm, though a reference to 38mm is known.

25 **LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL 1904**

An olive green ribbon 32mm wide.

26 **ARMY GOOD SERVICE MEDAL 1905**

33mm divided equally into brown and black. The majority view, supported by Abbasi, is that the ribbon was worn with brown to the left.

27 **GOOD CONDUCT**

Given the confusion by Mohammed Abbas Abbasi over the next medal, these ribbons may well refer to **CIVIL GOOD CONDUCT** rather than **ARMY GOOD CONDUCT** as stated by him.

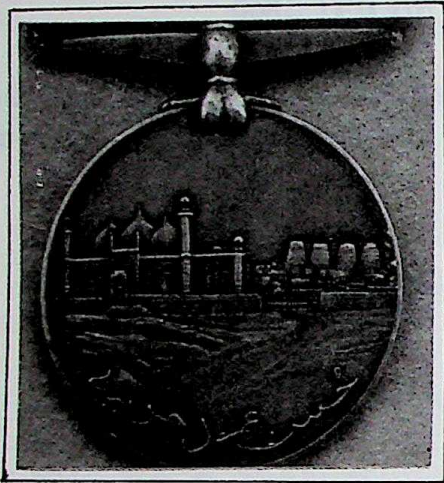
First Issue 1924-36 38mm; 10mm sky blue centre edged by 1.5mm golden yellow with fine black edges, 10mm red and outer green edges 2.5mm. Some sources give this as either the second issue of this medal, or Civil Long Service. It has also been seen as 32mm; 8mm centre edged by 2mm, 8mm, 2mm.

Second Issue 38mm. Central black stripe (2mm) edged by golden yellow (2mm), red (13mm) and outer golden yellow edges (3mm). Some sources give this as Civil Good Conduct (first issue), or Civil Good Conduct (second issue), or Military General Service

28 **UNIDENTIFIED**
 possibly
 ARMY GOOD CONDUCT

The cause of some confusion, not least because Mohammed Abbas Abbasi referred to the ribbon as **CIVIL GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL**, and yet the inscription on the medal clearly indicates this cannot be correct. That there were two issues of ribbon seems in little doubt. With regard to the first issue, some have referred to it as Army Good Conduct (first issue) while others refer to it as Civil General Service. The second issue has also been referred to as Military Good Conduct (first issue).

The example known to the author is named to a military officer and the inscription supports the view that it is a military award.



- Obverse* Type 5.
Reverse A view of a town with, below, the Persian inscription *Husn Amal Harbia* (Excellent Performance in War or Excellent Military Performance).
Size 36mm
Metal Cupro nickel
Ribbon **First Issue** 39mm; golden yellow with 2.5mm red edges and central black stripe (2mm) edged by red (1mm)
Second Issue 38mm; red with diagonal stripes bottom left to top right of yellow (2mm), black (1mm), yellow (2mm).
Suspension Clasp and ball to plain straight bar.
Designer Not known
Naming Rather crude unevenly impressed capitals
Bars issued Probably none

A miniature is known, mounted on the Second issue ribbon with ornamental top suspension bar.

JAN-i-NISARI CORPS MEDAL (VOLUNTEERS)



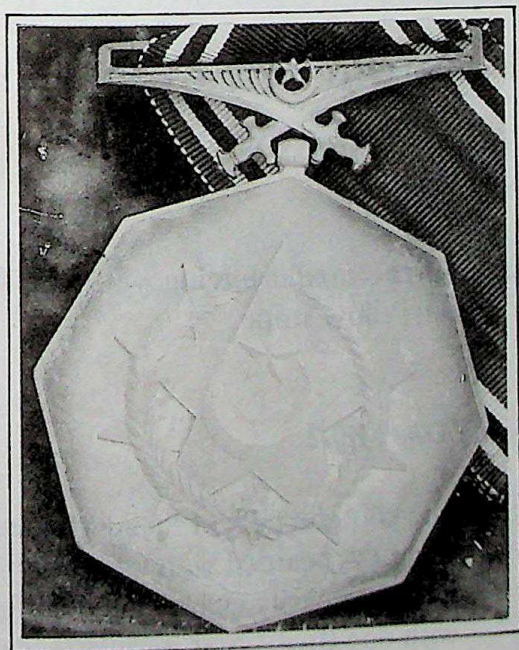
- Obverse* A different head of Sadiq Muhammad Khan V to those normally used. Facing left, he wears a lounge suit and a turban. Around the sides a leaf frond and below, the designer/hallmarks WAP.W and anchor/lion/E for purity.
Reverse In the centre a star and crescent surrounded by the Persian inscription *al-Malik ho-Allah Abd-Allah wa abd-al rasul nawab Haji Mohammed Abbasi Khamis farman rawai Bahawalpur* (God God and the Prophet who is the servant of the God. Haji Mohammed Abbasi Fifth, Ruler of Bahawalpur)
Size 36mm
Metal Both silver and bronze

- Ribbon* **Silver** 38mm; 12mm red, 3mm white, 8mm black, 3mm white 12mm yellow.
Bronze 36mm; purple with central red stripe (3mm), and a green stripe (6mm), 3mm from each edge
- Suspension* Claw and ball to straight plain bar.
- Designer* See comment under Obverse
- Naming* Not known
- Bars issued* *Shujaat* (Bravery); *Nack Chalan* (Good Character); *Khidmaat Husna* (Excellent Services). There may have been others. The ribbon was suspended from an ornamental top bar with leaf pattern.

30

GOOD SERVICE BADGES AND MEDALS CIVIL AND MILITARY

Issued in three classes, gold, silver and bronze, it came as something of a surprise to discover that all three classes of this somewhat large (63mm) octagonal medal were worn as neck badges.



- Obverse* Type 1.
- Reverse* A five pointed star superimposed upon another similar star. In the centre a star and crescent and encircling the points of the two large stars an open wreath. Beneath, the Persian inscription *Khidmaat Husna* (Excellent Services).
- Size* 63mm
- Metal* Gold, silver or bronze. The silver version weighed 111.500 gms.
- Ribbon* 43mm; olive green with stripes of white (1.5mm), black (3mm), white (1.5mm) set 3mm from each edge. The olive green was apparently replaced by a rich dark green but no example has been seen and the date of this change is not known.
- Suspension* Plain ball fitted to a suspension bar formed of crossed tulwars, hilts down with star and crescent between the blades.
- Designer* Spink and Son, London

Naming Not known. The only examples seen were unnamed.
Bars issued Probably none

31

POLICE MEDAL

Obverse Type 1.
Reverse Within an open leaf wreath tied at the bottom with a bow, the Persian inscription *Tamgha Polis*, (Police Medal).
Size 37 mm
Metal Silver
Ribbon 35mm; royal blue with stripes of red/yellow/red each 2mm wide, set 2mm from each edge, the yellow being separated from the red stripes by fine black lines
Suspension Ring and ball.
Designer Not known
Naming Not known
Bars issued Probably none, though the medal had the usual ornamental top suspension bar.

A miniature is known with the ornamental top suspension bar.

32

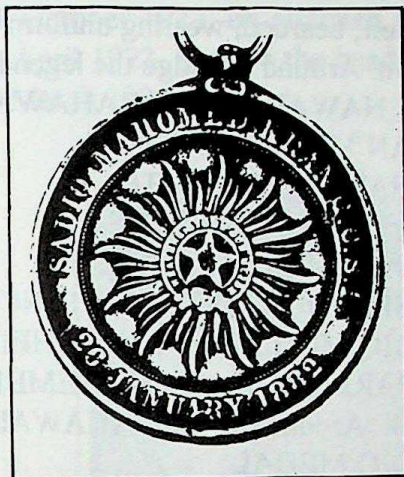
BIRTH OF HEIR APPARENT 1880

Known by reference to its ribbon only, no example of the medal having yet been found. 32mm black with a central red stripe 6mm wide edged with a 2mm yellow stripe.

33

GCSI COMMEMORATION MEDAL 1882

Obverse The youthful bust of Sadiq Muhammad Khan IV, bearded with long hair, wearing heavily embroidered uniform with one Breast Star, epaulette, cap with crest in front.
Reverse In the centre a representation of the Breast Star of the Order of the Star of India with its motto HEAVENS



LIGHT OUR GUIDE. The twelve pointed sun burst of the Star is, however, inaccurate. That of a KCSI had 8 points; that of a GCSI had 26. Within an outer circle the legend: **SADIQ MAHOMED KHAN G.C.S.I./ 26 JANUARY 1882.**

<i>Size</i>	45mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	Similar to the ribbon for the Candahar, Ghuznee and Cabul Medals of the First Afghan War, though a little narrower at 39mm. Rainbow pattern watered red, white, yellow, white and blue.
<i>Suspension</i>	Swivel ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

34

STATE MEDAL 1885

Known by reference to its ribbon only, no example of the medal having yet been found. 39mm; divided into three equal parts of red, yellow and green.

35

STATE MEDAL 1904

Known by reference to its ribbon only, no example of the medal having yet been found. 39mm; divided into three equal parts of red, yellow and black.

36

ROYAL HOUSEHOLD MEDAL 1904

Known by reference to its ribbon only, no example of the medal having yet been found. 38mm; divided into diagonal stripes, top left to bottom right, of yellow, dark green and light green, each stripe 8mm wide.

BIRTH OF HEIR APPARENT 1904

Obverse Bust of Muhammad Bahawal Khan V half left, bearded, wearing uniform with crown. Around the edge the legend H.H. NAWAB MOHD. BAHAWAL KHAN V ABBASI. Below BAHAWALPUR STATE

Reverse On eight lines the legend IN COMMEMORATION OF THE AUSPICIOUS BIRTH OF PRINCE SADIQ MOHD. KHAN THE HEIR APPARENT ON 29th SEPTEMBER 1904. Around the top BAHAWAL SADIQ MEDAL

Size 32mm

Metal Silver and bronze

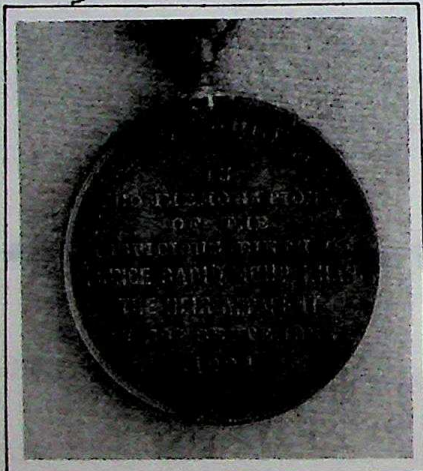
Ribbon According to collectors 36mm divided into red (15mm), white (6mm) and green (15mm). The author's example has a red, white and blue watered ribbon similar to the UK 1914-15 Star, sewn in a triangular shape and attached to an ornamental top buckle suspender

Suspension Ring and loop, with the ribbon suspended from a top ornamental buckle bar

Designer Hamilton & Co

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Probably none

**INSTALLATION MEDAL 1904**

It is not at all certain that such a medal existed. Ribbon collectors refer to two versions of a ribbon by this title. First: 36mm; divided into red (15mm), golden yellow (6mm) and dark blue (15mm). The second version has the dark blue replaced by green. There was no Installation in 1904 though Muhammad Bahawal Khan V was invested with full powers in 1903 and, as previously described, this is reflected in the inscription on the Imtiaz Haroonia. There were five classes of that Order and so there may not have been a requirement to issue a separate Installation Medal.

INSTALLATION MEDAL 1924

Although he succeeded in 1907, Sadiq Muhammad Khan V was only three years old at the time. On 1 October 1922, on attaining his 18th birthday, he was granted limited administrative powers and, on 1 April 1923, became the head of the Council of Regency. He was invested with full ruling powers on 8 March 1924.



- Obverse** A full face portrait of Sadiq Muhammad Khan V wearing a high necked tunic and turban with fan, plus necklaces and other jewels
- Reverse** In a central circle, in Hyderabad Arabic, *Jaloos 1342 Hijri, 1924 A.D.* (Accession 1342 Hijri, 1924 A.D.) Around the edge the Persian inscription *al-Malik ho-Allah Abd-Allah wa abd-al rasul nawab Haji Mohammed Abbasi Khamis farman rawai Bahawalpur* (God God and the Prophet who is the servant of the God. Haji Mohammed Abbasi Fifth, Ruler of Bahawalpur)
- Size** 36mm
- Metal** Gold, silver and bronze examples seen.
- Ribbon** 38mm; divided into three equal stripes of yellow, grey/white and black, the stripes separated by thin green lines.
- Suspension** Plain ring and straight bar
- Designer** Not known
- Naming** Not known. All specimens seen were unnamed.
- Bars issued** Probably none

BIRTH OF HEIR APPARENT 1924

Known by its supposed ribbon only, no example of the medal having yet been found. The ribbon is claimed to have been 38mm alternate black and yellow diagonal stripes running top left to bottom right, each stripe 7mm. The author owns a watercolour of an incomplete design that may have been intended for this medal. Octagonal in shape, it consists of a full face portrait of Sadiq Muhammad Khan V in heavily embroidered tunic with turban, the whole surmounted by a crown with suspension ring attached to a star and crescent device. The reverse has within a circle the figures 192 and a space for the last figure, suggesting that it was designed before the exact date of birth was known, though a son and heir, Mohammed Abbas Abbasi, was born on 22 March 1924, so one would have thought that

the year could be accurately guessed at when designing the medal. The ribbon on the watercolour consists of a central black stripe edged by yellow, red, white with red outer edges. It is possible, of course, that this design was never adopted.

41

SILVER JUBILEE 1931

<i>Obverse</i>	Type 1.
<i>Reverse</i>	Within a central disc the Persian inscription <i>Jashan ahad hukumat banisbat panj (or bist-o-panj) Saal 1325-1350 Hijri al-muqaddas</i> (Celebration of 25 years Reign AH1325 - 1350). This equates to AD 1907-31. Around the disc an open wreath with star and crescent at the top
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Cupro nickel
<i>Ribbon</i>	36mm; black with white diagonal stripes bottom left to top right, each 2mm wide and 8mm apart
<i>Suspension</i>	Claw to fixed straight bar with leaf design and a star at each end. The whole ribbon was suspended from an ornamental pin bar with leaf pattern and star and crescent
<i>Designer</i>	Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Impressed with a number on the rim
<i>Bars issued</i>	Probably none

The same ribbon is also credited with being used on a Silver Jubilee Medal 1949 (i.e. 25 years after Installation) but such a medal has not yet been traced.

42

BRITISH-BAHAWALPUR ALLIANCE CENTENARY 1833-1933

<i>Obverse</i>	Type 1.
<i>Reverse</i>	The State coat of arms with crossed flags of Bahawalpur and United Kingdom behind. On either side a small plaque with dates 1833 (left) and 1933 (right). Above the inscription in English, BRITISH-



BAHAWALPUR ALLIANCE CENTENARY. Below the inscription *Ittehat Sadh Sala Bartanja aur Bhawalpur* (Hundred Year Union Britain and Bahawalpur)

Size
Metal
Ribbon

37mm
Both gilt and cupro nickel known
First Issue 32mm; divided into equal stripes (5mm) of red, white, blue, red, yellow, black with a central stripe between the blue and red of green (2mm).

Second Issue Identical format but with the national order reversed, i.e. the red, yellow and black of Bahawalpur followed by the red white and blue of UK. Still the green dividing stripe

Suspension Claw and swivel ball to straight plain bar

Designer Spink and Son, London
Naming Neatly impressed capitals
Bars issued Probably none

HAJJ PILGRIMAGE 1935



Obverse Within a circle the Great Mosque (at Mecca). Around the edge the Persian inscription *ba-Fazlah taalaha (or toali) Sadiq Mohammed Abbasi Khamis. Farman rawai mumlukat khudadat Bahawalpur Hajj Akbar 1353 Hijri* (By the Grace of God Sadiq Mohammed Abbasi Fifth. Ruler of God Gifted Kingdom of Bahawalpur AH1353 [AD1935])

Reverse On five lines the Persian inscription *Bism'illah-e-Rahman-e-Rahim. Bayadgar Safar Hajjaze Carwan Mah Afsaraan Hashiya Wo Khaddaam Betaqreeb Ziarat Hareamein Shairfein. Dadai Munasik Hajj.* (In the name of Allah the Beneficent, the Merciful. In

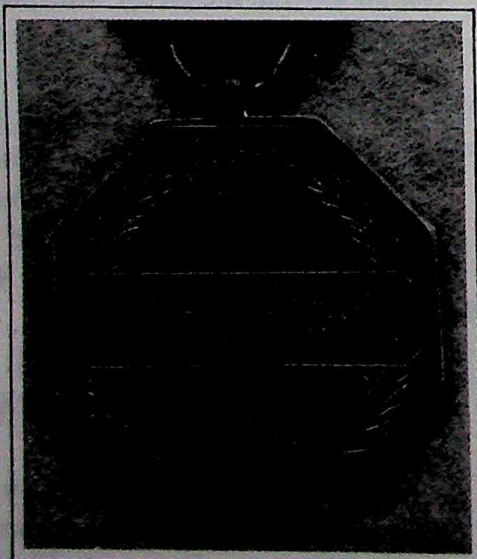


- the memory of [a group/pilgrimage] with senior officers and junior officers travelling to visit the two Holy Places on the occasion of Hajj), the whole surrounded by a wreath.
- Size* 36mm
Metal Silver
Ribbon **First Issue** 35mm; silver grey with six red stripes, each 1mm, arranged in two groups of three 2.5mm apart, starting 4mm from each edge
Second Issue 32mm; black with green edges (2mm) and two central green stripes each 1mm wide and 1mm apart
- Suspension* Ball and ring
Designer Not known
Naming Not known
Bars issued Probably none

It should be noted that when the Hajj falls on a Friday it is called Hajj Akbar, indicating two prayer services in the mosque; one for Hajj and the other for the normal Friday service.

INDEPENDENCE MEDAL 1947

An octagonal medal, the suspension mounted at the centre of the uppermost of the eight sides.



- Obverse* Type 4.
Reverse On three lines the inscription taken from the Holy Quran *ya-Allah* (Oh God) *Nasru minalla wa Fateh Qarib* (Success is from the God and Victory is near) *ya-Mohammed* (Oh Mohammed) Leaf fronds on either side
- Size* 37mm
Metal Cupro nickel
Ribbon 32mm; black with a 1mm white stripe 2mm from each edge. In the centre three equal stripes of red, yellow and green. Some references show the ribbon reversed but there is no doubt red is to the left.
- Suspension* Ball and ring
Designer Not known
Naming Unnamed
Bars issued Probably none

45

BAHAWALPUR-PAKISTAN ALLIANCE 1947

also seen referred to as

ACCESSION TO PAKISTAN MEDAL, 1947

An octagonal medal, the suspension mounted at the centre of the uppermost of the eight sides.



- Obverse* Type 4.
Reverse Crossed flags of Bahawalpur and Pakistan with star and crescent at the point of intersection. Five stars to either side. Above the Persian inscription *Ittehad Bhawalpur-Pakistan 1947* and below the inscription *17 zu-al-q'adah 1366 Hijri* with the date *1947* above. (Bahawalpur-Pakistan Union 1947)
- Size* 37mm
Metal Cupro nickel
Ribbon 32mm; divided into the two national colours (green with central white stripe for Pakistan), (red, yellow and black for Bahawalpur), the two divided by a 2mm brown stripe
- Suspension* Ball and ring
Designer Possibly Spink & Son, London (the name appears on the top suspension bar)
- Naming* Unnamed
Bars issued Probably none

46

GOLDEN JUBILEE 1955/6

- Obverse* Type 1
Reverse On four lines the Persian inscription *Jashan ahad hukumat panjah Saal 1325-1375 Hijri al-muqaddas* (Celebration 50 years Reign 1325-1375 Hijri [equivalent to 1907-1955/6]). Around the edge a spray of leaves and flowers
- Size* 36mm
Metal White metal, bronze and gilt bronze are known
Ribbon 34mm; dark blue/black with yellow diagonal stripes bottom left to top right,

each 2mm wide and 9mm apart

Suspension Ball and ring

Designer Spink and Son, London

Naming Crudely impressed with a number

Bars issued Probably none

This medal is an anachronism. Showing the 1931 bust, it was struck a full ten years after Partition and long after Bahawalpur had acceded to Pakistan.

47

AN UNIDENTIFIED LONG SERVICE MEDAL



Obverse A portrait, possibly of Sadiq Muhammad Khan V, in dress military uniform with fez, facing right. Around the top an inscription, though the illustration seen did not allow for translation, and below a leaf frond.

Reverse The State coat of arms, including pelican supporters and, on a scroll below, the Persian inscription *Taweel Khidmaat* (Long Services).

Size 36mm

Metal Silver

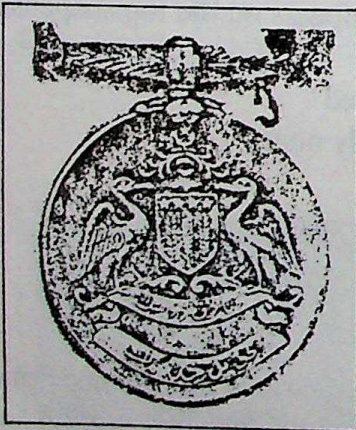
Ribbon Not known for certain. May be 37mm; alternate stripes of red (5mm), white (11mm), red, white, red

Suspension Claw and ball to straight bar decorated with leaf design

Designer Not known

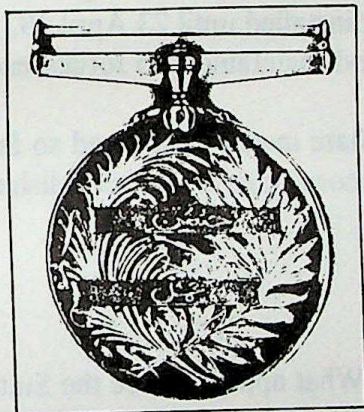
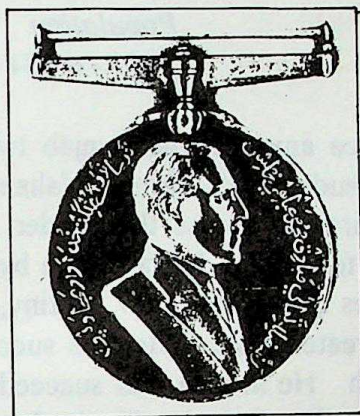
Naming Apparently unnamed

Bars issued Probably none



48

UNIDENTIFIED
possibly
WORKERS SERVICE/WORKS MERIT MEDAL



- Obverse* A portrait of Sadiq Muhammad Khan V, in lounge suit and tie, facing right. Around the top an inscription as for Type 1.
- Reverse* Against a background of leaves, two straight scrolls with the inscription *Husn Amal* (Excellent Administration or Excellent Performance)
- Size* 37mm
- Metal* Silver
- Ribbon* Not known for certain. May be 38mm; sky blue with central white stripe of 4mm.
- Suspension* Claw and ball to straight plain bar
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Apparently unnamed
- Bars issued* Probably none

CHAPTER 4

BALSAN

Area

57 square miles

Population

1931 - 6,864

A small state, ranking fourteenth in order of precedence amongst the Punjab Hill States, Balsan, which lay about thirty miles east of Simla, had been a feudatory of Sirmur (Nahan) prior to 1805 when there was one of the then frequent Gurkha incursions across the border. On the expulsion of the Gurkhas the Thakurai of Balsan was granted to Thakur Jograj Singh by sanad in September 1815. He lived to the age of 87 and for his services during the 1857 Mutiny, when he sheltered a number of English refugees from Simla, he was created Rana. He was succeeded by Bhup Singh who died in 1884 and was succeeded by Bir Singh. He in turn was succeeded by his brother, Rana Attar Singh, in 1920 who was followed by his son Ran Bahadur Singh, the last Rana before Independence, in May 1936, though he was not formally installed until 23 April 1937.

The Rana was not entitled to any form of gun salute and maintained no forces except for a police unit of 12 men.

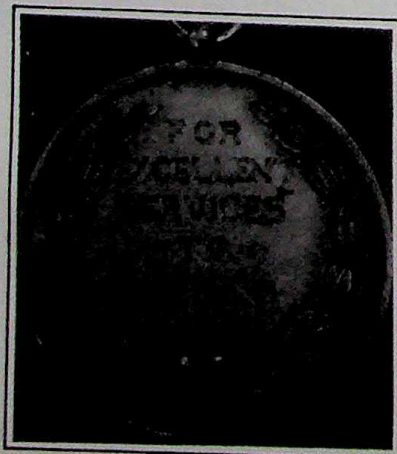
The medal which follows is unique in that it is the only State medal discovered so far which is almost entirely engraved. It has not been determined during whose reign it was established, though given the size of the State it is unlikely many were issued.

49

SERVICE MEDAL

*Obverse*

What appears to be the State coat of arms (though I have been unable to confirm this from either of the two main references on the subject). A shield quartered; 1 - apparently flag, 2 - possibly a building, 3 - crossed flags or axes, 4 - scales of justice. Above a sun in splendour and below a scroll with Sanskrit inscription. The supporters are probably a tiger (left) and horse (right). Around the top edge the inscription BALSAN STATE.

*Reverse*

Within an open wreath of berries and flowers in the die of an otherwise plain reverse, is engraved the inscription, on six lines, FOR EXCELLENT SERVICES TO THE STATE

Size

39mm

Metal

Silver

<i>Ribbon</i>	Not known. The existence of this medal appears to be unknown to ribbon collectors
<i>Suspension</i>	Loop and ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known. Undoubtedly a locally made piece
<i>Naming</i>	The example seen was unnamed
<i>Bars Issued</i>	Not known. Probably none

CHAPTER 5

BARODA

Area

8,164 sq miles

Population

1931 - 2,443,007

One of the premier Princely States, the ruler of Baroda enjoyed a permanent salute of 21 guns. A Maratha state located in western India, the Gaekwar (also seen as Gaikvad, Gaikwad and Gaekwad), or ruling family, had descended from one of the Peshwa's great Maratha military chiefs. There is a legend that the name Gaekwar derived from the activity of one Nandaji, Maratha officer in charge of the fort at Bhor. One day he saw a Mohammedan butcher driving a herd of cattle for slaughter and, being a good Hindu, rescued the cows by opening a side door of the fort, hence *Gai* - cow and *kavad* - small gate.

One of Nandaji's grandsons, Damaji I, earned the title '*Shamsher Bahadur*' (Champion Swordsman) in 1720 during the battles between the Marathas and the Nizam, hence the scimitar which appears in the medals that follow. Following his death Damaji's nephew, Pilajirao, established for himself a territory out of the area for which he had previously been responsible for collecting the revenue on behalf of the Peshwa. Pilajirao was assassinated in 1732 and it was his son, Damaji II, who established himself in Baroda in 1734. In 1780 Futteh Singh signed a Treaty of Alliance with the East India Company. Twenty years later, during a dispute over the succession, the British sided with one candidate, Anand Rao Gaekwar who, after being confirmed on the *masnad*, signed a convention at Cambay on 15 March 1802 for the stationing of a British subsidiary force in the State. This had the effect of permanently detaching one of the four great chieftains from the Maratha confederacy, but it also removed the threat from the Peshwa to Gaekwar.

Relations with the British remained relatively good. In 1815 relations between the Gaekwar and the Peshwa were broken and, in 1817, the former ceded all the Peshwa Territories to the British. Anand Rao died in 1819 and was succeeded by Sayaji Rao II who ruled for 28 years. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Ganpat Rao, who was deposed in 1854 when the British started a 6 year period of direct rule. Ganpat Rao died in 1856 and so, in 1860, when the British returned rule to the Gaekwars, his brother Khande Rao was installed on the throne. He and the later rulers bore the title *Sena Khas Khel Shamsher Bahadur* (Champion Swordsman and Chief of the Special Troops). Khande Rao died in November 1870 without an heir and his younger brother, Malhar Rao, was appointed to the Regency pending the resolution of the widowed Maharani's claim to pregnancy. In fact a girl was born and so Malhar Rao was confirmed as ruler. In 1875, however, Maharaja Malhar Rao was deposed by the British, accused of having tried to poison the Resident, Colonel Phayre.

In a bid to find a successor the dowager Maharani was given the right to adopt and a number of boys in Baroda related to the ruling family were summoned to appear before her. These included the three sons of Kashirao Gaekwar, himself one of five brothers who were descended from Prataprao, younger brother of Damaji. While Damaji was carving out his kingdom the Prataprao side of the family disappeared from view as farmers under the Peshwa. So it was that a cattle herder came to be placed on the *gaddi*. Legend has it that, when asked why they had been brought to Baroda, the eldest boy answered that he had come to see the sights. The youngest boy said that he didn't know. The middle boy, Gopalrao Gaekwar, said that he had come to rule Baroda. On 27 May 1875, at the age of 12 years, he was installed on the throne as Sayaji Rao III. He was invested with full powers on 28

December 1881 and was to rule until 1938 when he was succeeded by Pratap Singh (AD1938-51; VS1995-2008).

The State acceded to the Republic of India in 1947. At that time it consisted of four unconnected districts, viz; Kadi, Baroda, Amreli and Navasari.

In 1907 Sayaji Rao III instituted various insignia and formulated rules concerning investitures and the wearing of insignia. In 1909, in a bid to honour those of his high officials, like the Chief Minister, who had rendered meritorious service to the State, he founded:

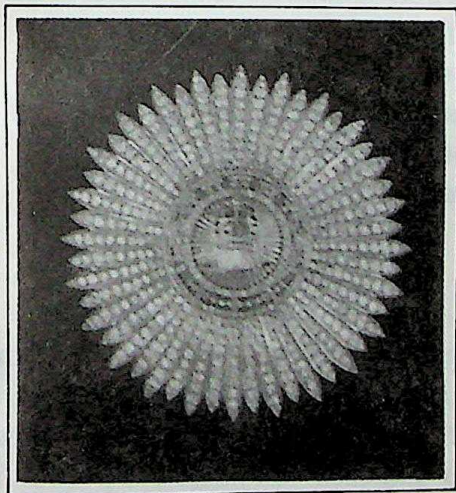
THE MOST NOBLE ORDER OF UDAYADITYA

(The word Udayaditya, when literally translated, means The Ascending Sun). A special set of insignia within this Order, but intended only for the Royal Couple, was designated:

50

THE MOST NOBLE ORDER OF VIKRAMADITYA (Victory of the Order of Sun)

Star



Obverse Twenty four centrifugally arranged petal-shaped diamond studded strips alternating with shorter but similar strips, fanning out from two red enamelled, diamond-bordered circles, inscribed at the top *Satyameva Jayate* (Truth Shall Triumph). Within the inner circle a diamond encrusted *Shirpech* (pagri-shaped crown with royal pendant-shaped decoration rising upwards from the front of the crown) resting on a diamond encrusted sword below which, on a strip of red enamel, the inscription in gold, *Vadodara Raj* (Baroda State).

Reverse Believed plain

Size c. 94mm

Metal Gold

Ribbon 3½ inch sash. 1½ inch deep maroon flanked by ½ inch white, quarter inch saffron and one fifth inch white borders

Suspension Not known

Designer Possibly M H S Spielman of Oxford who was also involved in advising Gaekwar on his art collection.

Naming None.

Bars issued None

Neck Badge

- Obverse* Petal-shaped base comprising seven diamond encrusted segments set between seven ruby encrusted points of a star. In the centre an onyx cameo of the bust of Sayaji Rao III, facing left, encircled twice with diamond paved borders. Within the circle the inscription *Satyameva Jayate* (Truth Shall Triumph) set in diamonds. At the top of the badge a flower shaped with 18 diamond-encrusted petals. Between the flower and ruby cum emerald crown is a sword (tulwar) traced with diamonds.
- Reverse* Believed plain
- Size* c. 116mm x 66mm
- Metal* Gold
- Ribbon* 50mm. 22mm centre stripe of deep maroon flanked by 8mm white, 3mm saffron and 3mm white edges.
- Suspension* Hook
- Designer* Possibly M H S Spielman of Oxford
- Naming* Not named
- Bars issued* None

Sash Badge

Known only from one indistinct photograph in "India's Fighting Troops" by Saint Nihal Singh, published during the First World War. The badge seems to be similar to that worn at the neck but without the petal shapes between the points of the star. A later picture of Sayaji Rao III, taken in about 1935, shows him wearing a high-necked tunic with the star and sash of the GCSI, and the star and neck badge of this Order, but obviously no sash badge. Another picture is known of Sir Pratap Singh, taken sometime between 1938 and 1943, which shows him clearly wearing the sash and breast star of this Order. He is, however, wearing a high-necked tunic with a magnificent jewelled necklace and there is no sign of the neck badge and ribbon around his neck. Nevertheless, not quite so clear on the photograph is what seems to be the sash badge. Unfortunately it is not possible to say from this evidence whether the design of this class of the Order changed when Pratap Singh ascended the *gaddi*. As discussed below, other classes of the Order appear to have the bust of Pratap Singh on them.

On a slightly lighter note, what this photographic evidence does suggest, however, is that the paramount power and the States played a "cat and mouse" game with each other over the question of orders. Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy between 1936 and 1942, was particularly exercised by the subject. On 25 November 1941 he wrote to Sir Henry Craik, "We have been very slack in the matter in the past and I think it important that we should very definitely tighten up procedures....at Baroda a year ago His Highness of Baroda and at least one of his Ministers appeared with the Sash and Star of an Order...I

understand that it has now been disposed of and that the Maharaja has abolished the Order".¹ No record has been found to confirm that the Order was abolished in 1941.

51

THE STAR OF UDAYADITYA The Ascending Sun.

The only known photograph of this class of the Order has the royal effigy facing right. It would seem to be that of Sir Pratap Singh. From the limited number of references seen it is certainly believed that the complete Order was instituted by Sayaji Rao and so this photographic evidence suggests that the design of this class of the Order was changed after 1939 when Pratap Singh ascended the *gaddi*. Such design changes probably only involved the royal effigy.

Star

Obverse As for *Vikramaditya* except that the decoration on the badge is in gold rather than diamond studded.

Neck Badge



Obverse As for *Vikramaditya* except that the seven petals of the base are white enamel and the points of the star red enamel edged with gold. The royal effigy, also in gold, faces right instead of left and is thought to be that of Sir Pratap Singh. The inscription *Satyameva Jayate* is in gold on a white enamel circle. The flower, crown and sword suspender are in gold.

Size As for *Vikramaditya*

Ribbon As for *Vikramaditya*.

Suspension Hook

Designer Possibly M H S Spielman of Oxford though the change of effigy was probably the work of another.

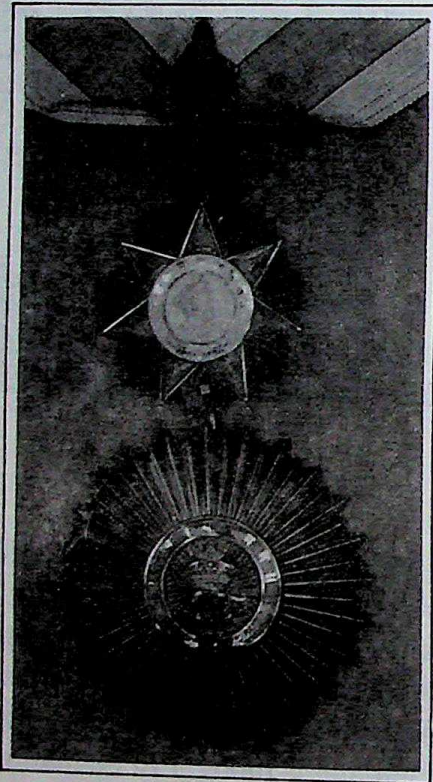
Naming Not named

Bars issued None

No evidence of a Sash Badge has been found.

THE STAR OF ARUNADITYA The Sun at Daybreak or Dawn.

As with the Star of Udayaditya, the only known photograph of this class of the Order has the royal effigy facing right and would seem to be that of Sir Pratap Singh. The same comments about a change in design of the Order apply.



Star

Obverse As for *Udayaditya* except that the main body of the star is in silver rather than gold. The centre part of the decoration is red enamel and gold. It is smaller than *Udayaditya* at c. 81mm.

Badge

Obverse As for *Udayaditya* except that the seven petals are in silver, as is the flower, crown and sword suspender.

Size c. 98mm x 50mm

Ribbon As for *Vikramaditya*

Suspension Hook

Designer Possibly M H S Spielman of Oxford though the change of effigy was probably the work of another.

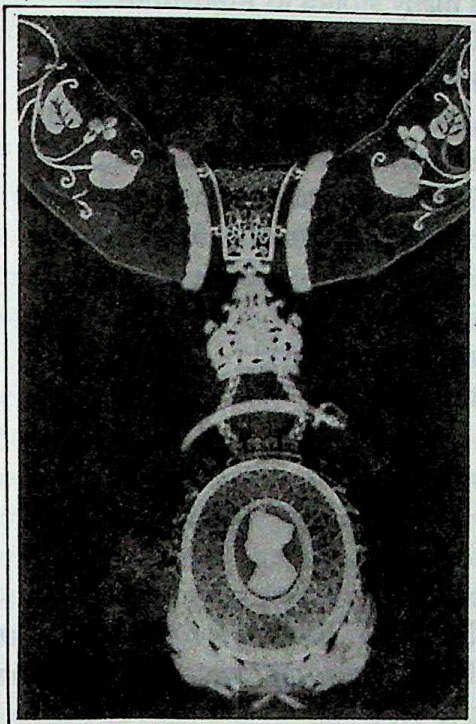
Naming Not named

Bars issued None

"United India & Indian States" dated 5 February 1938 announced the award of this class of the Order to V K Dhurandhar, Chief Justice of Baroda, and K V Uplap, Mantra Sachiv.

RAJAVALLABHA Beloved of His Highness

Obverse An oval badge within an outer ring of gold set with diamonds. In the centre a smaller ring of gold set with diamonds containing an onyx cameo of the effigy of Sayaji Rao III facing left. The oval badge set with enamel of grey/blue and deep red supported on a half wreath of gold leaves and surmounted by a dark blue enamel scroll with inscription. The whole suspended from an ornate

*Reverse*

shirpech in gold and semi-precious stones and a curved sword connected by gold chains.

Size

Not known

Metal

Not known. From one photograph of Sayaji Rao Gaekwar wearing the decoration along with his GCSI it would appear to be about the same size as the breast star of the GCSI.

Ribbon

Gold
Red, embroidered with coloured leaves and flowers. Incorporates two gold discs with gold stars on blue enamel ground.

Suspension

The *shirpech* attaches to a gold and enamel plate which is fixed to gold edges on the neck ribbon.

Designer

Not known

Naming

Probably unnamed

Bars issued Probably none

The photograph of Sayaji Rao Gaekwar referred to above shows him clearly wearing the decoration from the embroidered neck ribbon. Another photograph is known of Baroda's Commander-in-Chief, taken in about 1914, which shows him wearing what seems to be this decoration, but as a breast badge rather than a neck badge. It seems to be attached directly by the *shirpech* to the uniform of the C-in-C, rather than by a ribbon.

54

RAJAMITRA Friend of His Highness

As with the Star of Udayaditya, the only known photograph of this class of the Order has the royal effigy facing right and would seem to be that of Sir Pratap Singh. The same comments about a change in design of the Order apply.

Obverse

As for *Rajavallabha* except that the gold rings are set with pearls instead of diamonds. The effigy of the Maharaja is in gold on a white ground and faces right (probably Pratap Singh) while the enamels of the oval badge are lighter. The scroll above is of a lighter blue and the *shirpech* suspender does not have

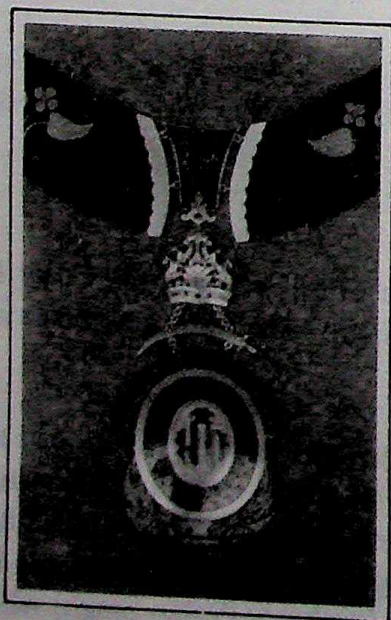


- as many stones as *Rajavallabha*.
- Size* Not known
- Metal* Gold
- Ribbon* As for *Rajavallabha* except that the basic colour is royal blue.
- Suspension* The *shirpech* attaches to a gold and enamel plate which is fixed to silver edges on the neck ribbon.
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Probably unnamed
- Bars issued* Probably none

The award of this decoration in 1938 to Sir Hormusji M. Mehta of Bombay for services to trade and industry caused some concern to the British authorities on the grounds that they considered him a British subject and therefore not entitled to receive a State award.

RAJAPRIYA

Dear to His Highness



- Obverse* As for *Rajamitra* except that the oval rings are plain gold and the centre effigy is replaced by an enamelled monogram. It is not known whose this is.
- Size* Not known
- Metal* Gold
- Ribbon* As for *Rajamitra* except that the basic colour is dark blue.
- Suspension* The *shirpech* attaches to a gold and enamel plate which is fixed to white edges on the neck ribbon.
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Probably unnamed
- Bars issued* Probably none

56

RAJYARATNA**Jewel of the State****May also have been known as DATA MEDAL.**

Baroda's attempts in the mid-1930s jealously to guard the "ownership" of the title RAJ RATNA was mentioned in Chapter 1. The exact identification of the following medals has not been confirmed. Photographic evidence shows two virtually identical medals but with the busts of Sayaji Rao and Pratap Singh Rao respectively. Those for Pratap Singh Rao are mounted on two different ribbons which, according to ribbon collectors, represent RAJYARATNA (Gold) and DATA (Gold) [golden yellow with gold stripes at edge]; and RAJYARATNA (Silver) and DATA (Silver) [red with golden stripes at edge]. The one example for Sayaji Rao is mounted on the first ribbon only. Of the four photographic records seen, all have ornamental top suspension bars and curved bars on the ribbon; some have a curved sword below the suspension scroll. Unfortunately the quality of the photographic evidence, which did not include pictures of the reverse of the medals, does not allow for further analysis. Nevertheless, further examples of the Sayaji Rao medal have been found, in gold, silver and bronze, but none was mounted on ribbons. "United India & Indian States" dated 5 February 1938, announcing the awards to V K Dhurandhar and K V Uplap (see above), referred to them both having previously been awarded the **GOLD MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF THE RAJ RATNA MANDAL**. No other reference has been seen to this style of title for the award.

Whether or not RAJYARATNA and DATA were one and the same, or whether there were subtle differences between the actual medals, has not been determined. As far as the DATA medal was concerned, it was given for philanthropic work, the word DATA meaning donor. The medal was given in three classes; *DANAMOORTI* (Image of Charity) - Gold, *DANAVEER* (Extremely Bountiful) - Silver, *DANAPRIYA* (Charitable) - Bronze. Quite why philanthropic awards should carry a sword on the ribbon has not been determined, fuelling the speculation that RAJYARATNA and DATA may have been two separate awards, one for military and one for philanthropic works.

**SAYAJI RAO***Obverse*

The bust of Sayaji Rao facing left. Around the edge the Devanagari inscription *Shri Sayaji Rao Maharaj Gayekwad*.

Reverse

A leaf with inscriptions in Devanagari; above *Hare Hare Mahadeva* (Hail to Lord Shiva) and below *Jin ghar jin takht* (Saddle is home, saddle is throne).

Size

28 mm

Metal

Gold, silver and bronze

Ribbon

28 mm: golden yellow with 4mm gold stripes at edge, or possibly red with 4mm gold stripes at edge.

Suspension

An ornate top suspension bar of scroll and crossed leaf fronds with curved



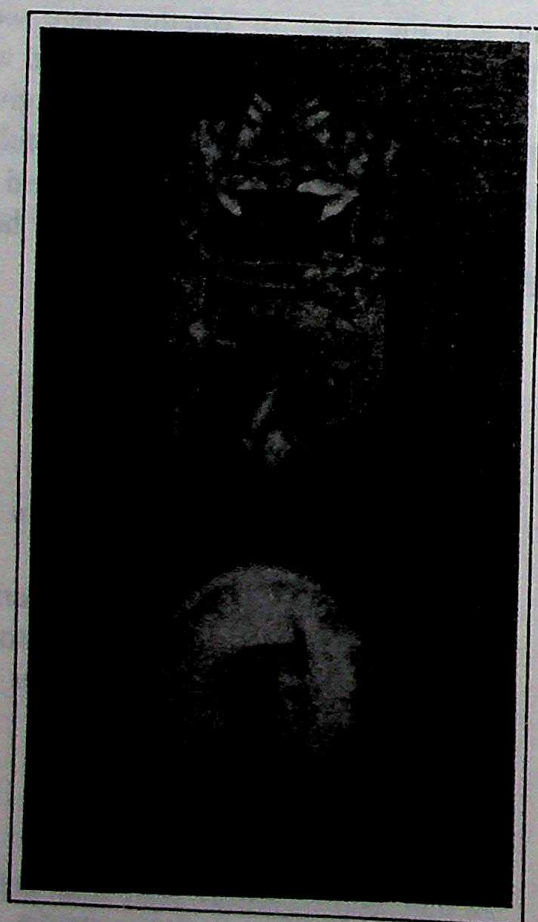
sword, hilt to the right, below. The medal is suspended through a heart-shaped ring to a heart-shaped bar at the base of the ribbon.

Designer Not known but believed to have been struck by John Pinches

Naming Examples seen were unnamed

Bars issued All ribbons carry a curved bar with inscription but the photographic evidence has not enabled transcription. It is possibly *Satyameva Jayate* (Truth shall triumph).

PRATAP SINGH RAO



Obverse The bust of Pratap Singh Rao facing right. Around the edge an inscription in Devanagari though photographic evidence was insufficiently clear to allow translation.

Reverse Not known

Size 28mm

Metal Gold and silver. Possibly also bronze, though no evidence for this has been found.

Ribbon 28 mm: golden yellow with 4mm gold stripes at edge, or red with 4mm stripes at edge.

Suspension An ornate top suspension bar of scroll and crossed leaf fronds with, in one case, curved sword, hilt to the right, below. The other three photographic examples had no sword on the ribbon. The medal is suspended through a heart-shaped ring to a heart-shaped bar at the base of the ribbon.

Designer Not known.

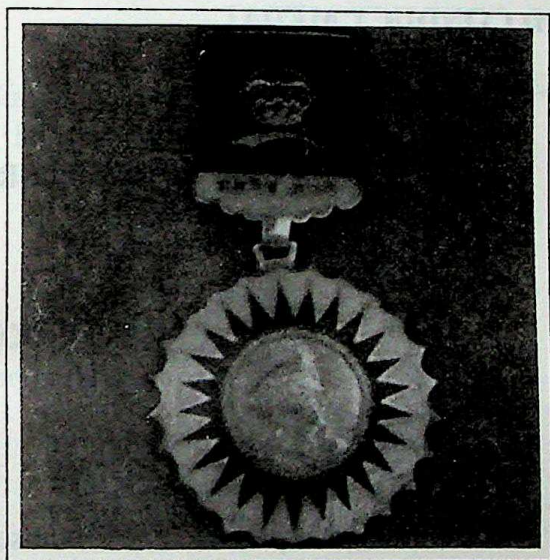
Naming Not known

Bars issued A curved bar with inscription but the photographic evidence has not enabled transcription. It is possibly *Satyameva Jayate*.

57

DNYAN BHASKAR ORDER Sun of Knowledge

According to available evidence this was awarded in two categories, Knowledge and Arts, each divided into two classes, gold and silver. Thus *DNYANBHASKAR* (Sun of Knowledge) - gold, *DNYANAJYOTI* (Flame of Knowledge) - silver, *KALABHASKAR* (Sun of Arts) - gold, *KALAJYOTI* (Flame of Arts) - silver. Nevertheless, "United India & Indian States" dated 5 February 1938 announced the award of the Bronze medal of *DNYANRATNA MANDAL* to a retired State servant for poetry. It cannot be ascertained if this press report was accurate. Only one example of any of these medals has been seen and it is not known if the others were of similar design.



Obverse A twenty five pointed disc in white enamel edged in gold. In the centre a circle with the effigy of Pratap Singh facing right, in gold, the whole surrounded by a twenty five pointed petal design in blue enamel edged in gold.

Reverse Not known

Size 72mm

Metal Gold or silver

Ribbon 37 mm dull green

Suspension A gold edged white enamelled suspension bar with Devanagari inscription *Satyameva Jayate* (Truth Shall Triumph).

Designer Not known

Naming Not known

Bars issued The *shirpech* and *tulwar* in enamels were attached to the ribbon of the known example.

58

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (MILITARY)



Obverse Bust of Pratap Singh facing right. Around the legend, in English, H. H. MAHARAJA PRATAP SINGH GAEKWAD BARODA

Reverse The legend, in English on three lines, FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE and around the upper rim, BARODA STATE FORCES

Size 38mm

Metal Silver



Ribbon Two possibilities: 32mm pink with 3mm white edges, or 29mm golden yellow with 3.5mm white edges

Suspension Clamped loop

Designer Not known

Naming Impressed in capitals

Bars issued Not known but probably none

ARMY LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL



Obverse The bust of Sayaji Rao II, half left but facing, wearing military uniform and royal turban. Around, the legend SHRI SAYAJIRAO GAEKWAD II BARODA.

Reverse On a plain field the legend on lines, FOR/ LONG SERVICE/ AND/ GOOD CONDUCT. Curved around the upper edge, BARODA ARMY.

Size 38mm

Metal Silver

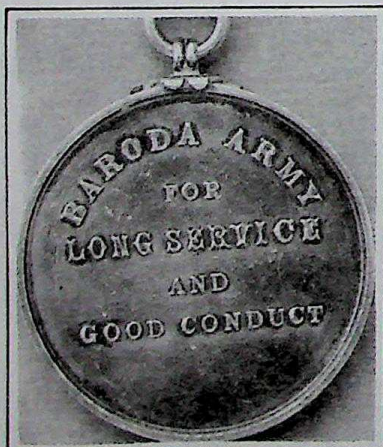
Ribbon Not known, but possibly one of those listed above for the Meritorious Service Medal (Military), i.e.: 32mm pink with 3mm white edges, or 29mm golden yellow with 3.5mm white edges

Suspension Ring attached to ornamental scroll bar

Designer Not known

Naming Impressed capitals plus year of award

Bars issued Not known but probably none



MAHARAJA'S POLICE MEDAL



Obverse Bust of Pratap Singh facing right. Around the legend, in English, H.H. MAHARAJA PRATAP SINGH GAEKWAD BARODA

Reverse Coat of Arms of Baroda State bearing the legend above, in Devanagari script, *Jai Mahadeva* (Victory to Lord



Shiva), and below *Jin ghar jin takht* (Saddle is home, saddle is throne).

<i>Size</i>	39mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm orange with 3mm white edges and a 2.5mm centre white stripe.
<i>Suspension</i>	Not known since the only known example is without suspender but possibly clamped loop.
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known but probably none

61

POLICE LONG SERVICE MEDAL



<i>Obverse</i>	Bust of Pratap Singh facing right. Around the legend, in English, H.H. MAHARAJA PRATAP SINGH GAEKWAD BARODA
<i>Reverse</i>	Coat of Arms of Baroda State bearing the legend below in Devanagari script, <i>Jin ghar jin takht</i> (Saddle is home, saddle is throne).

<i>Size</i>	39mm
<i>Metal</i>	Copper
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm; 6mm dark blue, 20mm pale orange, 6mm dark blue. An alternative has a darker orange centre.



<i>Suspension</i>	Not known since the only known example is without suspender but possibly clamped loop.
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known but probably none

62

GOLDEN JUBILEE MEDAL 1926

<i>Obverse</i>	The monogram SRG (Sayaji Rao Gaekwar) below the <i>shirpech</i> and tulwar. Around the edge, in English, BARODA STATE.
<i>Reverse</i>	The inscription in Devanagari



Shrimanta Rajyapita Shri Sayaji Rao Gayekwad Maharaja Sahebano Suvarna Mahotsava 1926 (His Highness, Father of the State, SRG's Golden Jubilee Celebrations 1926)

Size 31 mm
Metal Silver
Ribbon 32 mm. 22 mm golden yellow edged with 5 mm red divided by 1mm white
Suspension Plain loop
Designer Not known
Naming Unnamed
Bars issued None

DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL (A.D.1875-1935)

Hirak Mahotsava



Obverse The bust of Sayaji Rao facing left. Around the edge the inscription in Devanagari *Shri 3 Sayaji Rao Maharaj Gayekwad*. Below the bust a flower design

Reverse Within a floral design the Devanagari inscription, on six lines, *Hirak Mahotsava Vaishakha Vada 7 Samvat 1931-Samvat 1991 Unajmi Yajnasya Yogena (Diamond Jubilee Vaishakha brighter moon day 7 Samvat 1931-1991)*. Above, the *shirpech* and tulwar

Size 36 mm
Metal Issued in gold, silver and cupro-nickel
Ribbon 31mm. A central band of golden yellow (14mm) edged with white (1mm), red (5mm) and white (3mm)
Suspension Plain loop
Designer Possibly Spink & Son Ltd
Naming Unnamed
Bars issued None

An identical version is known, but without any sign of a suspension ring ever having been fitted. It may have been issued as a commemorative medallion.

64

UNIDENTIFIED

possibly

ACCESSION MEDAL - PRATAP SINGH - 1939

Though not fully identified, the medal is known to commemorate the accession of Pratap Singh on 7th February 1939. The inclusion of the exhibition inscription suggests it may not be an actual coronation medal as such, though no other commemorative medal is known for this occasion. It is for this reason that, although exhibition medals have otherwise been excluded from this work, an exception is made for this medal. No ribbon has yet been identified, though it was obviously intended to be worn.



Obverse

The Royal Arms of Baroda

Reverse

All inscriptions are in Devanagari script. Around the top *Rajyarohan Mahotsava* (Accession Ceremony); in the centre *Badodra 1939* (Baroda 1939) and around the bottom *Grihudyog Pardarshinii* (Small Scale Industry Exhibition), with flowers between the top and bottom inscriptions.



Size

39mm

Metal

Silver

Ribbon

Unknown

Suspension

Ring and loop

Designer

Unknown

Naming

Unnamed

Bars issued Not known, probably none

65

FATEH SINGH RAO PLAQUE



Obverse

Bust of Sayaji Rao III facing left with, above, the *shirpech* and tulwar and legend in Devanagari *Shrimant Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaikwad* (His Highness Sayaji Rao Gaikwad). Below, the legend in Devanagari *Ne Kaushalya Mate* (For Excellence)

Reverse

Bust of Fateh Singh Gaikwad facing left holding flower in right hand. Above, the legend in Devanagari *Shrimant Maharaja Pahela Fateh Singh Rao Gaikwad* (H.H. First Fateh Singh Rao Gaikwad). Below, *Gaddinashin Isvi 1778, Swargavasi*



Isvi 1789 (Crowned AD1778, Died AD1789)

Size 76mm x 50mm x 30mm thick
Metal Bronze
Ribbon None
Suspension None
Designer Manufactured by John Pinches & Co.
 Die engraver F.B. (Frank Bowcher)
 and LA DE SMETH
Naming Unnamed
Bars issued None

GANPAT RAO PLAQUE

Obverse Bust of Sayaji Rao facing left with, above, the *shirpech* and tulwar and legend in Devanagari *Shrimant Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaikwad* (His Highness Sayaji Rao Gaikwad). Below, the legend in Devanagari *Ne Kaushalya Mate* (For Excellence)

Reverse Bust of Ganpat Rao with, above, the legend in Devanagari *Shrimant Maharaja Ganpat Rao Gaikwad* (His Highness Ganpat Rao Gaikwad). Below, the legend *Gaddinashin Isvi 1848 Swargawasi Isvi 1857* (Crowned AD1848, Died AD1857)

Size 76mm x 50mm
Metal Bronze plated by silver
Ribbon None
Suspension None
Designer Manufactured by John Pinches & Co.
 Die engraver F.B. (Frank Bowcher)
Naming Unnamed
Bars issued None

I have been unable to photograph this plaque

MALHAR RAO PLAQUE



Obverse Bust of Sayaji Rao facing left with, above, the *shirpech* and tulwar and legend in Devanagari *Shrimant Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaikwad* (His Highness Sayaji Rao Gaikwad). Below, the legend in Devanagari *Ne Kaushalya Mate* (For Excellence)

Reverse Full face bust of Malhar Rao with, above, the legend in Devanagari; *Shrimant Maharaja Malhar Rao Gaikwad* (His Highness Malhar Rao Gaikwad). Below, the legend *Gaddinashin Isvi 1871 Swargawasi Isvi 1875* (Crowned AD1871, Died AD1875)

Size 76mm x 50mm

Metal Bronze plated by silver

Ribbon None

Suspension None

Designer Manufactured by John Pinches & Co. Die engraver F.B. (Frank Bowcher)

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None



According to the book "Medals by John Pinches" these plaques were part of a series of nine, four of which were designed by Bowcher. It is not clear, however, whether all nine were made for Baroda, or whether the design was used for other States. No other examples have been seen, though the same book refers to another version in which the obverse as described here (described as reverse in the quoted reference) had the legend in English, H.H. MAHARAJA SIR SAYAJI RAO GAEKWAR AWARDED TO (space for name) FOR MERIT.²

1. "Wearing of State decorations and foreign miniatures at Viceregal functions" July 1939-April 1943. IOLR R/3/1/242 File 27(3)

2. John Harvey Pinches, "Medals by John Pinches. A Catalogue of Works Struck by the Company from 1840 to 1969". London: Heraldry Today, 1987.

CHAPTER 6

BHARATPUR

*Area**1,878 sq miles**Population**1931 - 486,954*

The rulers of Bharatpur claim descent from Lord Krishna. Sue, a Yadav Rajput, is said to have migrated from Bayana to the Dig jungles and to have founded the village of Sinsini, named after Sinsina, the tutelary deity. The story is that Balchand, a descendant of Sue, having no child by his first wife, took a Jat woman and had two sons by her who, not being recognised by the Rajputs as Rajputs, took the name Sinsinwar from their paternal village; and from them sprang the famous Sinsinwar Jats. The first Jat of this stock of any historical importance was Brij, a noted freebooter during the latter half of the seventeenth century. Rajaram, a nephew of Brij, was the first to establish himself at Jatoli Thun where he made himself master of forty villages. Subsequently Chauraman, the son of Brij, carved out a State for himself which was the beginning of the Bharatpur State. It was in the reign of Maharaja Surajmal (1755-63) that Bharatpur reached the zenith of its glory. Surajmal left behind a prosperous State and a formidable army. Bharatpur is noted for its famous fort which once withstood a siege by General Lake. The British first fought Bharatpur in 1805, but it was only in 1826 that the State finally came under their control.

In 1893 Maharaja Ram Singh succeeded to the *gaddi* but administration of the State was taken out of his hands in 1895 and entrusted to a Council working under the general supervision of the Political Agent. Ram Singh was deposed in 1895 and succeeded by his infant son, Kishan Singh. During his minority the State remained under the administration of a Council but Maharaja Kishan Singh was invested with full ruling powers in November 1918. He died in March 1929 and was succeeded by his eldest son, Brijendra Singh, then aged eleven, who was invested with ruling powers in October 1939.

As with some other States, controversy arose over the question of orders in 1925. In December of that year the Bharatpur Darbar sought formal sanction of the Government to an award that had already been made; the title of SAMAR BIR with a gold medal and a monetary allowance to Senior Sub Assistant Surgeon Lieutenant Sampuran Singh, Chief Medical Officer, Bharatpur, in recognition of his conspicuous service during the floods of 1924. The immediate reaction was that Sampuran Singh, as a government servant on secondment to Bharatpur, could not accept any award. Nevertheless, the Government enquired whether SAMAR BIR (which they translated as roughly equivalent to the title JANG BAHADUR (Brave in Battle), had previously been awarded to British subjects.

GIRRAJ ORDER

The Foreign and Political Secretary of Bharatpur replied in June 1926 that, in recognition of services during the floods of 1924, the Bharatpur Darbar had been pleased to institute the **GIRRAJ ORDER** in two classes: Gold, with the titles of KUL BHUSHAN or SAMAR BIR, and Silver, with the title of RAJ BHAKT. All three carried monetary allowances. In addition to Sampuran Singh, Lieutenant Sher Dil, a British subject but in State employment, had been awarded the Silver medal.

Subsequently the Darbar described the award as being "just like the Order of British India", awarded to military officers in recognition of distinguished and meritorious services. According to the Dewan's office the award consisted of:

<i>Obverse</i>	First Class: A gold badge, centre gold effigy of Shri Krishna encircled with a blue enamel riband bearing a Hindi motto (<i>People's Power is Raja's Power and is worthy of admiration</i>), in gold inside an eight pointed star. (But see below for a more accurate translation).
	Second Class: As for First Class but in Silver and with a yellow enamel riband for the motto.
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	Not known
<i>Metal</i>	Gold or Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	Described as "Blue in centre about 1 inch wide with yellow edges of 1/4 inch". This matches quite closely that which ribbon collectors refer to as Distinguished Service Medal (Second Class) - see below. There was no indication in the Darbar letter that Gold and Silver had different ribbons
<i>Suspension</i>	Not known
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Not known
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known

The Government insisted that the medal awarded to Sampuran Singh be recovered from him as well as the allowances paid. They made the same demand in respect of Sher Dil but he successfully appealed against the decision and the matter was dropped in December 1928.

In addition to the ribbon described above, ribbon collectors also refer to Distinguished Service Medal (First Class) - 32mm; purple centre (21mm) with yellow edges (5mm), and Distinguished Service Medal (Third Class) - 29mm; blue centre (16mm) with red edges (7mm). The actual measurements of Second Class are 32mm; blue centre (21mm) with yellow edges (5mm). While I am not certain about whether or not the ribbon referred to as Third Class falls into the same category, it does seem as if First and Second Classes of the supposed Distinguished Service Medal should more properly be referred to as the GIRRAJ ORDER.

69

MOST EMINENT BRIJENDRA ORDER OF THE BHARATPUR STATE

In October 1925 notice was received that Kishan Singh had appointed one of his State Force officers to be a Companion of the **MOST EMINENT BRIJENDRA ORDER OF THE BHARATPUR STATE**, with the title VIR SHROMANI. No description of the medal was given but a series of ribbons are known to ribbon collectors; sash of the First Class, ribbons of the Second and Third Classes, and another referred to as the Medal of the Order. In fact, research for this book identified the 'Medal of the Order' more correctly as the Fourth Class of the Order. In 1976 and 1977 a UK medal dealer sold two decorations which he described as the First and Second Classes of the Order. The whereabouts of the supposed First Class decoration is known, as are details of the recipient. From subsequent research it is possible categorically to state that this piece (which is in gilt and enamel) is, in fact, the Fourth Class of the Order. The piece which was sold as the Second Class (Silver and enamel) is therefore probably the Third Class. From this it might be assumed that the Second Class would be similar in design, but in gold and enamel. Given that a sash exists, it might also be assumed that the First Class insignia would constitute a star and sash badge, though the exact design of such pieces is not known.



- Obverse** An oval (hollow) centre with full face portrait of Kishan Singh in dress uniform. Around this a blue enamel band (Third Class) or yellow enamel band (Fourth Class) with Sanskrit inscription *Praja Balam Rajya Balam Parshastaty* (Power of the people is the power of the King and that is supreme). The whole surrounded by scroll work and surmounted by a five pointed star
- Reverse** Plain except for inscribed name of recipient and the title awarded (see below).
- Size** 68mm x 48mm excluding star
- Metal** Probably gold and enamel (Second Class). Identified as silver and enamel (Third Class) and gilt and enamel (Fourth Class).
- Ribbon** Yellow centre with blue edges. First Class sash 98mm (blue edges 18mm). Second; 50mm (edges 9mm) Third; 38mm (edges 8mm) Fourth; 32mm (edges 6mm)
- Suspension** Ring between medal and star, ring between star and ribbon
- Designer** Not known
- Naming** Engraved capitals on reverse
- Bars issued** None

As with Sampuran Singh, the Government demanded that all medals awarded to British subjects be withdrawn and any accompanying allowances recovered. From the list provided by the Bharatpur Darbar it is possible to identify the titles which accompanied all but the First Class of the Order:

Second Class - (i) NIYA DHISH PRABANDH KARTA
(ii) SAMAR BHUSHAN DEO
(iii) VIR SHROMANI

Third Class - (i) RAJ BHUSHAN
(ii) SUMANT MANI

Fourth Class - (i) RAJ HITESHI (though on the example known it appears as RAJ HETESHI)
(ii) MAHAMANYA

70

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL



- Obverse* The bust of Kishan Singh in full dress military uniform wearing two medals, facing half right. Around the edge the inscription in English COLONEL HIS HIGHNESS SHRI BRIJENDRA SAWAI KISHEN SINGH MAHARAJA OF BHARATPUR 1925
- Reverse* An outer band containing a leaf design. In the centre, on three lines, the inscription in English, FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE. Below, a scroll. In the example seen this was blank and therefore may have been intended to carry the name of the recipient.
- Size* 38.1mm
- Metal* The known example was a copper proof. The actual medal may have been struck in silver.
- Ribbon* Possibly 29mm; blue centre (16mm) with red edges (7mm). (See comments under GIRRAJ ORDER above)
- Suspension* Not known. The proof lacked a suspension.
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Not known. Possibly on scroll on reverse
- Bars Issued* Not known, probably none

Miscellaneous

In a letter from the President of the Council of State, Bharatpur, to the Political Agent reference was made to a gold three stringed chain with an effigy of Kishan Singh awarded to another British subject, Major Abdul Samad, along with the title of FAUJDAR. As in other cases it was ordered to be recovered and use of the title discontinued.

Another letter dated November 1928 made the point that there were other Orders which resembled British Orders, naming CHANDRA SHIROMNI INDU (CSI), DESH BHUSHAN (DIWAN BAHADUR) ... "and the like". Unfortunately "the like" were not specified. Nevertheless, an earlier letter from the Foreign and Political Secretary, Bharatpur, used his post-nominal letters KHS and CVR. No other references to these have been found.

CHAPTER 7

BHAVNAGAR

Area

2,961 square miles

Population

1931 - 500,274

A State within the Kathiawar region founded in 1723 by Bhavsinhji, a descendant of Sejakji of the Gohil tribe. During the First World War two squadrons of the Bhavnagar Imperial Service Lancers saw service in Egypt, Palestine and Mesopotamia with two troops seconded to the Mysore Imperial Service Lancers as part of 15th Imperial Service Cavalry Brigade.

The only medal traced to the State appears to have been struck for soldiers other than those of Bhavnagar State, though it is possible that some of the State soldiers qualified. Maharaja Sir Bhavsinhji Takhtsinhji and his Maharani raised a war hospital in January 1916 entirely from their own funds. Only Indian soldiers were admitted, and none as a result of direct military action. All those who were admitted received the medal, a total of 628. It must be assumed that, given the reason for the medal, the Government of India raised no objections to it being given to non-State subjects. An illustrated book on the hospital, "Report of the Bhavnagar War Hospital January 1916 to September 1918", was privately printed after the war.

71

WAR HOSPITAL MEDAL 1916

*Obverse*

The Maharaja and Maharani of Bhavnagar, facing right. He wears a jacket with three strings of pearls, a turban and plumed cockade fixed to the turban by a eagle brooch with outstretched wings. She wears a sari. Around the edge, in English, the legend MAHARAJA & MAHARANI OF BHAVANAGAR

Reverse

The hospital with 1916 below and above, in an arc, BHAVNAGAR WAR HOSPITAL

*Size*

41mm

Metal

Both Silver and Bronze are known

Ribbon

Not known

Suspension

Crude loop and ring.

Designer

Not known

Naming

Impressed capitals

Bars issued

In the shape of the IGS clasp with BHAVANAGAR REMEMBRANCE. One of the author's specimens has the clasp at the top of the ribbon but another example is known where it is attached to the suspension loop.

CHAPTER 8

BHOPAL

Area

6,924 square miles

Population

1931 - 729,955

The principal Muslim State in Central India and the next most important Muslim State in India after Hyderabad. The ruling family was descended from Dost Muhammad Khan, an Afghan, who came to Delhi in about 1708 and took service under Ahmad Shah Bahadur, later taking advantage of the death of the Emperor to establish his own independent kingdom. He died in March 1728. His successor, Yar Mohammed Khan, was forced by the Peshwa, Baji Rao, to give up certain lands in Malwa but in 1795 the territories were overrun by bands of Pindaris. It was at this time that Wazir Muhammad, son of a cousin of the Nawab, returned to the State as a soldier, successfully fought against the Marathas, and founded the branch of the family that continued to rule Bhopal until Independence.

Wazir Muhammad died in 1816 and was succeeded by a son who in turn died and was succeeded by his daughter's husband, Jehangir Muhammad Khan. He died in 1844 and was succeeded by his daughter, Shah Jahan Begam, but she resigned her right to rule during her mother's life-time and so her mother, Sikandar Begam, daughter of Nazar Muhammad Khan, succeeded to the *masnad* in 1859. In 1862 the Government of India granted a Sanad recognising the succession according to Muslim law. When Sikandar Begam died in 1868 Shah Jahan Begam assumed her right to rule and had her daughter, Sultan Jahan Begam, recognised as her successor. She succeeded her mother in 1901. Of her three sons two pre-deceased her in 1924 and, though they each left sons of their own, the Government of India decided to recognise her third surviving son, Nawabzada Hamidullah Khan, as her successor. The Begam voluntarily abdicated on 17 May 1926 in his favour.

Little has been found on the State's medals.

TAMGHA-SARKAR-i-ALIA

Apparently the title of the State Order, it was reputed to have a ribbon 50mm wide, white with pale blue stripes (5mm) set 5mm from each edge. The following medal is possibly of the Order.

*Obverse*

The State coat of arms (a shield with tower and Mashir [fish] supporters) resting on a scroll with, in English, BHOPAL. Around the edge, in English, H.H. NAWAB SULTAN JAHAN BEGAM G.C.S.I. G.C.I.E.

Reverse

The monogram of Sultan Jahan Begam with coronet above and an inscription



<i>Size</i>	Not known. Only seen in miniature
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	See above
<i>Suspension</i>	Straight bar
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Not known
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known

73

SULTANIA GOLD MEDAL
SULTANIA SILVER MEDAL
 possibly also known as
TAMGHA-i-FARMA RAWAE
 (Ruler's Medal)

Known only by a ribbon, identical in design to that for the previous medal, but measuring 32mm with the blue stripes 3mm set 4mm from each edge.

74

CIVIL DEFENCE MEDAL

Issued in silver and bronze, though only the silver version has been seen so it is not known if the bronze was a different design. The two medals apparently had two issues of ribbon.



<i>Obverse</i>	The State coat of arms (a shield with tower and Mashir [fish] supporters) resting on a scroll. Around the edge the inscription <i>Iftikhar-ul-Mulk Sikandar Saulat Nawab Mohammed Hamidullah Khan Farma Rawae Darul Iqbal Bhopal</i> (Iftikhar-ul-Mulk Sikandar Saulat [title] Nawab Mohammed Hamidullah Khan His Highness [God give him all respect] Ruler of Bhopal).
<i>Reverse</i>	A four engined propellor aeroplane. Around the top edge, in English, FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE, and around the bottom, BHOPAL CIVIL DEFENCE WORLD WAR II
<i>Size</i>	39mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver and bronze
<i>Ribbon</i>	Silver - First Issue. 40mm; sky blue

with a central red stripe (5mm) and edge stripes of white (4mm) and orange (3mm) set 3mm from each edge.

Second Issue - Similar to the first issue except it was possibly narrower (38mm) and the outer stripes were red (outermost) and white.

Bronze - First Issue. As for silver but without the central red stripe.

Second Issue - as for silver but without the central red stripe.

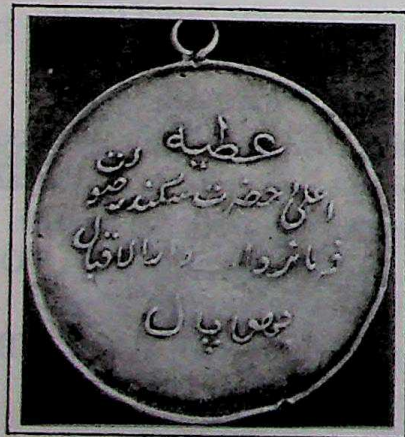
Suspension Ring and loop

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Not known, probably none

UNIDENTIFIED



Obverse What looks like a fleur-de-lis pierced by three arrows, point down, though is officially described as lily argent resting on a vizier with three arrows reversed (this device is the crest of the State coat of arms). On the official coat of arms the scrolls either side of the vizier have the Holy Quran inscription, in Arabic, *Nasru minalla wa Fate Qarib* (Success is from the God and Victory is near), but this appears to be missing from the medal. It does have, however, around the top the Arabic inscription *Kamp Chakloud* (Camp Chakloud). On either side of the crest, at the edge of the medal, a five pointed star.

Reverse On four lines the Arabic inscription *Ataya Ala Hazrat Sikander Sulat Farma Rawae Darul Iqbal Bhopal* (Grant Most Dignified Sikander. Sulat Commander of Sovereign Bhopal)

Size 39mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon Not known

Suspension Ring

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Not known, probably none

I have been unable to locate *Chaklound*, nor determine the reason for issuing this medal.

The following are known by reference to their ribbons only. No examples or illustrations of the medals have been found.

76

**HAMIDA GOLD MEDAL
HAMIDA SILVER MEDAL**

38mm; pale blue centre (16mm) edged by red (6mm) and dark green (5mm).

77

**HAMIDA SILVER STAR
HAMIDA BRONZE STAR**

37mm; black with red centre (7mm) having a narrow central green stripe, and a white stripe (4mm) set 8mm from each edge.

78

POLICE MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY (SILVER)

78a. First Issue: 38mm; dark blue centre (14mm) edged by red (2mm) and dark green (10mm).

78b. Second Issue: 30mm; pale blue centre (8mm) edged by red (2mm) and light green (9mm)

In addition, I have seen a reference to **MILITARY MERIT MEDAL 1901-26**, but have found no details and the designation is not known to ribbon collectors.

CHAPTER 9

BHOR

Area

910 sq miles

Population

1931 - 141,546

A small 9-gun salute State just south of Bombay, it had been established in 1697 when Rajaram, the son of the great Maratha warrior Shivaji, appointed Shankaraji Narayan to the office of *Pant Sachiv* or Minister, one of the eight hereditary Ministers of the State. The appointment was accompanied by a grant of land - Bhor. In 1849 it became a tributary of the British Government, though a Treaty had first been concluded between the then Pant Sachiv, Chimanji Shankarrao, and the East India Company in 1820. Bhor was unusual amongst Hindu states in that the rulers came from the Brahmin priestly caste rather than the Kshatriyas warrior caste.

Chimanjee Shankarrao, who died in 1827, adopted Raghunath Chimanji as his successor. He in turn adopted Chimanji Raghunath on his death-bed in 1837 and he ruled until 1871 when he was succeeded by his son, Shankarrao Chimanji. On his death on 17 July 1922 he was succeeded by his son, Meherban Shrimant Raghunathrao Shankarrao, who had been born on 20 September 1878. He was granted a 9-gun salute in 1927 and, on 3 June 1935, the title of Raja as an hereditary distinction. 1938, the date on the medal shown below, is sixty years after his birth rather than his accession, though the date is not exact and the significance of 16 December has not been determined.

79

DIAMOND JUBILEE



- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Obverse</i> | The half bust of Raghunathrao Shankarrao facing right. In a border around, the inscription
RAJA RAGHUNATHRAO PANT
SACHIV DIAMOND JUBILEE 16
Dec. 38 |
| <i>Reverse</i> | Plain |
| <i>Size</i> | 40mm |
| <i>Metal</i> | Silver |
| <i>Ribbon</i> | Not known |
| <i>Suspension</i> | Ring and loop |
| <i>Designer</i> | Not known |
| <i>Naming</i> | Unnamed. Possibly intended to be named on the plain reverse. |
| <i>Bars issued</i> | Not known. Probably none. |

CHAPTER 10

BIKANER

*Area**23,315 sq miles**Population**1931 - 936,218*

The rulers of Bikaner, who were entitled to a 17 gun salute, were from the Rathor clan of Rajputs. The State was founded in 1465 by Rao Bikaji, born in 1439 the sixth son of Rao Jodhaji of Marwar, the founder of Jodhpur. Rai Singh, the fourth in descent from Bika, became a leader of horse in Akbar's service and both Akbar and Jahangir married princesses of the Bikaner Rajputs, thereby cementing ties between Bikaner and Delhi.

In 1808, during the rule of Surat Singh, contact was first made with the British when the Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone passed through the State on his way to Cabul as envoy of the Earl of Minto, recently arrived Governor General of India. Elphinstone was treated with great respect and this relationship was to be reflected in subsequent years. A treaty of friendship and amity with the Rajah was first signed at Delhi on 9 March 1818 and ratified by the Governor General, Lord Hastings, in camp near Patrassa Ghaut on 21 March 1818. During the same year, when Pindaris or "free companies" (outlaws and marauders) invaded the territory as part of the Third Mahratta War, British troops came to the assistance of Surat Singh in accordance with the new treaty and suppressed the insurgents.

In 1845/46, during the First Sikh War, Bikaner troops marched with others towards Ferozepore, though they did not cross the Sutlej and were not actually employed. During the Second Sikh War of 1848/49 Bikaner troops were again sent to Ferozepore, and re-supply arrangements from Bikaner for British troops were also made, though not brought into use because of the difficulty of obtaining water. In 1857, during the Mutiny, troops of Bikaner, led personally by Maharaja Sardar Singh, the only Rajput Prince to take to the field, were made available to the Haryana Field Force commanded by the former Sikh General, Henry Van Cortlandt, now British Deputy Commissioner for Gugera. A large body of these troops, temporarily commanded by a British officer, Lt George Pearse, effected a forced march on 26 June 1857 by which the strategic town of Hissar was besieged and relieved. The Bikaner troops continued to serve with Van Cortlandt and after the troubles were over Sardar Singh was rewarded with 41 villages and the right of adoption.

Sardar Singh was succeeded in 1872 by Dungar Singh, after whom one of the Bikaner cavalry units was subsequently named. He in turn was succeeded in 1887 by Ganga Singh (born 1880) who then reigned for fifty-six years and who initiated and carried out many development projects. He was, however, also known as a valiant soldier who led his own troops on many occasions in the service of the Crown. In 1900 soldiers of the Ganga Risala, the famed Bikaner Camel Corps, served in China in an infantry capacity during the Boxer Rebellion. In January 1903 soldiers from the same Corps served in Somaliland and during the First World War in the Middle East, supported and reinforced by the Sadul Light Infantry. Units of the State similarly served overseas during the Second World War with great distinction.

It was during the reign of Ganga Singh that many of the orders, decorations and medals were first instituted. He died in 1942 and was succeeded by his son Sadul Singh. Research for this book encountered some confusion surrounding Bikaner awards, centred on the fact that Sadul Singh created two new orders, the Vikram Badge (later styled the Order of the Vikram Star) and the Order of the

Sadul Star of Bikan, thereby eventually relegating his father's premier award of the State, the Badge of Honour, to third position (as well as changing its designation to the Order of the Star of Honour). To add to the confusion Sadul Singh took the *colours* of the Badge of Honour ribbon and changed their pattern to make the ribbon for his new Vikram Badge. Since the re-designated Star of Honour continued to be worn during Sadul Singh's reign he created a completely new ribbon for it, though the regulations governing which ribbons were to be worn with which medals obviously confused some recipients at the time. Indeed, one group is known where the recipient received both the Badge of Honour and the Vikram Badge. While his full size group contains both, and are therefore worn from the revised ribbons, his miniature group lacks the Vikram Badge and his Badge of Honour is, most confusingly and wrongly, worn from the ribbon of the Vikram Badge.

Another example of confusion concerns Sadul Singh's coronation medal. The story goes that because Ganga Singh had all his medal portraits done "full face" Sadul Singh decided to have his done "half face". The first example to bear this new look was his coronation medal but after a year Sadul Singh decided he did not like it and so ordered all medals withdrawn and replaced by a new "full face" version. The ribbon was changed at the same time, so there were effectively two different coronation medals for the same event.

According to the Bikaner Army List of 1949 Bikaner honours continued to be awarded at least until November 1948 though whether they continued for much longer after Independence has not been determined. Sadul Singh died in 1950 and was succeeded by his son Maharaja Karni Singh who died in 1989. He wrote "The Relations of the House of Bikaner with the Central Powers, 1465-1949" which included details of some of the State awards.

THE ORDER OF THE VIKRAM STAR THE VIKRAM BADGE

The Bikaner Rajpatra, Vol LVII, No E.12, dated 2 February 1944, notification No 2-M.C. states:

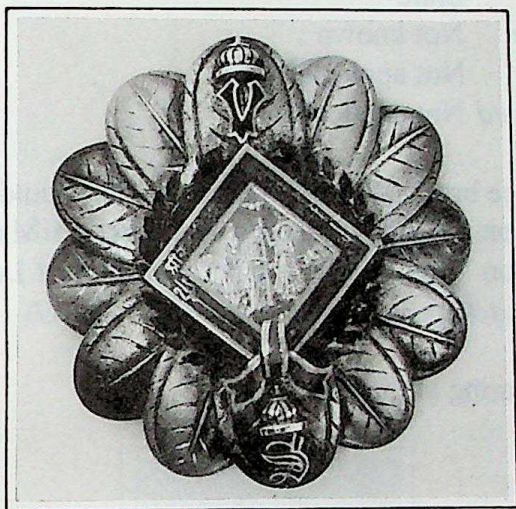
"In order to widen the scope of 'HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA'S HOUSEHOLD MEDAL' which from experience of the last few years has not been found fully to serve the purpose for which it was intended and in order more suitably to recognise the services rendered to His Highness the Maharaja and the House of Bikaner, His Highness has been graciously pleased, on the auspicious occasion of the First Anniversary of his Accession, to institute a Badge to be known as 'THE VIKRAM BADGE'.

This will consist of 4 Classes, into the last of which will be merged the present Household Medal Class I, which will henceforth consist of only 2 classes - Class I being in Silver and Class II in burnished Copper"

Although no reference has been found in the Bikaner Rajpatra notifying the change of designation, the Bikaner Army Lists for 1945 and 1947 refer to The Vikram Badge while the List for 1948 refers to The Order of the Vikram Star, suggesting that the title was changed during 1947. This theory is further supported by the publication "Bikaner State Orders, Decorations and Medals", published in November 1947, which makes no mention of The Vikram Badge but does refer to The Order of the Vikram Star. The 1945 and 1947 Army Lists place the Vikram Badge in order of precedence after the Badge of Honour, but the 1948 List has The Order of the Vikram Star as the principal honour of the State.

Grand Commander (Class I)

Star



Obverse

Twelve alternate petals of gold and silver overlapping and radiating from a central motif showing the Goddess Karni blessing Rao Bikaji who is standing with lance in hand next to his horse. The motif contained within a red enamelled diamond shape bearing the Devanagari inscription *Shri Karni Aasisadi Bikatothirraj* (Blessing by Karni Mati for his perpetual rule), the whole resting on a green enamelled wreath. On the uppermost petal a gold *chhatar* above the blue enamelled letter 'V'. On the lowermost petal a gold *chhatar* above the blue enamelled cypher 'S'.

Reverse

Plain

Size

60 mm diameter

Metal

Gold and silver with enamels

Ribbon

The sash was 10cms kasumbal (red) with a central kesaria (saffron) 16mm stripe and another 3mm stripe set 5mm either side of it. A ladies' sash was allowed for in the regulations, 3 1/4 inches (82mm) wide

Suspension Assumed to be pin

Designer Not known



Badge

Obverse

Eight petals overlapping and radiating from a central motif of a bust of Rao Bikaji within a diamond shape bearing the Devanagari inscription of the Order as for the Star (Blessing by Karni Mati for his perpetual rule), the whole resting on a wreath. On the uppermost petal a *chhatar* above the letter 'V'. On the lowermost petal a *chhatar* above the cypher 'S'.

Reverse

Plain

Size

70mm x 50mm

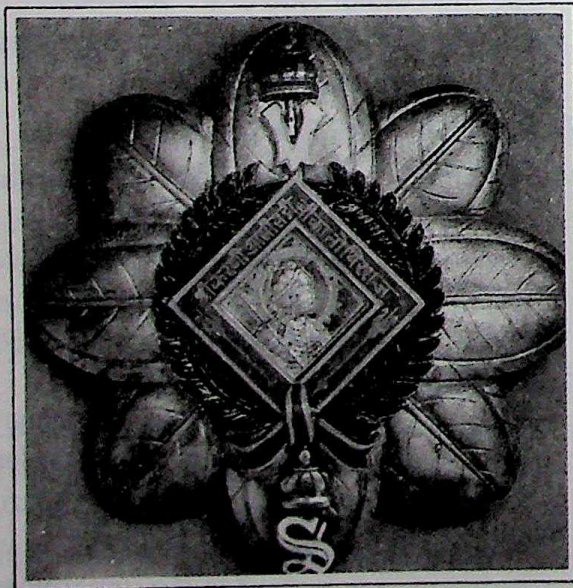
<i>Metal</i>	Silver gilt with green enamel petals, red and yellow enamel diamond shape, white enamel wreath and letters
<i>Ribbon</i>	The Badge was worn at the hip on the sash
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring above the coat of arms of Bikaner State
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Not applicable
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not applicable

Regulations allowed for Ladies to wear the Star on the breast, the sash pinned to the shoulder by means of a brooch and the Badge at the hip, though the only awards traced so far were to Maharaj Kumar Karni Singh (1944) and Colonel Maharaj Sri Bhairon Singh (1948), so the question of Ladies' awards may be academic.

A miniature of the Badge was issued, possibly for wearing at the neck

Commander (Class II)

Star



<i>Obverse</i>	Similar to that for Grand Commander except that there are eight petals, not twelve, and they are all gilt rather than alternating gold and silver. The central motif within the diamond shape bears the bust of Rao Bikaji facing right, holding a lance across his right shoulder, rather than the illustration on the Grand Commander star
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	74mm diameter
<i>Metal</i>	Gilt
<i>Ribbon</i>	The sash was not worn
<i>Suspension</i>	Pin
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Not applicable
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not applicable

Neck Badge

This was identical to the Badge of a Grand Commander except that it measured 54mm x 38mm and was suspended from a ribbon 39mm red with 6mm saffron centre stripe and 1mm stripe spaced 3mm either side of it. Ladies wore the Badge on a bow worn on the shoulder above other medals and miniatures

Six awards have been traced, one given in 1944, and the remainder in 1948.

A miniature version was issued (28mm x 17mm)

Companion (Class III)



Neck Badge

Identical to that for Class II except that the whole was of silver gilt but for the enamelled diamond shape and wreath. The ribbon was 33mm wide, the central stripe 5mm and the two edging stripes 1mm spaced at 1mm either side. Ladies wore the badge from a bow above other medals and miniatures

Only four awards have been traced, two given in 1947 and two in 1948. There may have been more.

It is assumed that a miniature version was issued though none has been found.

Officer (Class IV)

A breast badge identical to the Class III neck badge but all in silver gilt. The ribbon was as for Class III. Ladies wore the badge from a bow along with other medals, the bows of several awards overlapping where necessary

Ten awards have been traced, one in 1947 and the remainder in 1948. A miniature version was issued (29mm x 16mm)

Member (Class V)

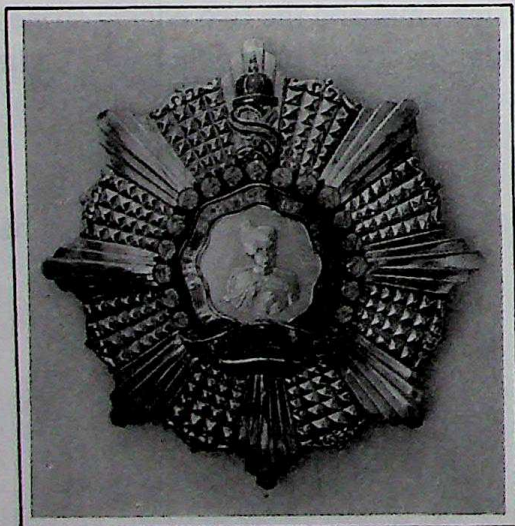
As for Class IV but in silver. Ladies as for Class IV

Four awards, three of them to military officers, have been traced for 1948. A miniature version was issued (29mm x 16mm)

81

THE ORDER OF THE SADUL STAR OF BIKAN
THE ORDER OF THE SADUL STAR OF BIKANER

Both designations have been seen but the former seems to have been the more correct. The exact date of its institution has not been determined though mention of it did not appear in The Bikaner Rajpatra until 1947, with some of the recipients' names repeated in the Bikaner Army List for the first time in 1948, suggesting 1947 as the year of its institution.

Grand Commander (Class I)**Star***Obverse*

A studded circle with eight equally spaced rays, the topmost with *chhatar* and the cypher "S". In the centre the effigy of Sadul Singh in relief surrounded by a pale blue garter with, in English, the inscription IN THE SERVICE OF MY PEOPLE and below on three scrolls the Sanskrit inscription *Prajahit Bartini Vyam* (In the Service of my people). The garter surrounded by 17 pink flower buds.

Reverse

Plain

Size

83mm diameter

Metal

Silver gilt and enamels

Ribbon

The sash was 10.3 cms wide, pale blue with dark blue, saffron and red stripes, each 5mm, set 15mm from each edge. Ladies wore a sash 82mm wide

Suspension Pin

Designer Not known

Naming Not applicable

Bars issued Not applicable

Badge

The central part of the Breast Star, i.e. bust, garter and flower buds with the *chhatar* and cypher "S", the latter in blue and white enamel, suspended from a ring and triple pearl-drop clasp, the whole measuring 97mm x 39mm. The Badge was worn at the hip on the sash

Regulations allowed for Ladies to wear the Star on the breast, the sash pinned to the shoulder by means of a brooch and the Badge at the hip, though no awards to ladies have been traced so the question of wear may be academic. A miniature version of the neck badge was authorised. Only two Class I awards have been traced, to Major General Rao Bahadur Thakur Gop Singhji of Malasar, and Maharaj Sri Ajat Shatru Singhji Sahib, both in 1948.

Commander (Class II)

It is known that a Breast Star and Neck Badge were authorised, the latter suspended from a 1½ inch ribbon coloured as for the sash of Class I. No examples have been found and only three awards of Class II have been traced, to Colonel Thakur Prithiraj Singhji of Daudsar, Lieutenant Colonel Rao Baldev Singhji of Sattasar (promoted from Class III), and Rao Bahadur Thakur Pratap Singhji, all in 1948. It is assumed that the badges were similar to those for Class I, though possibly slightly smaller. Regulations allowed Ladies to wear the badge from a bow above other medals and miniatures - again, probably academic.

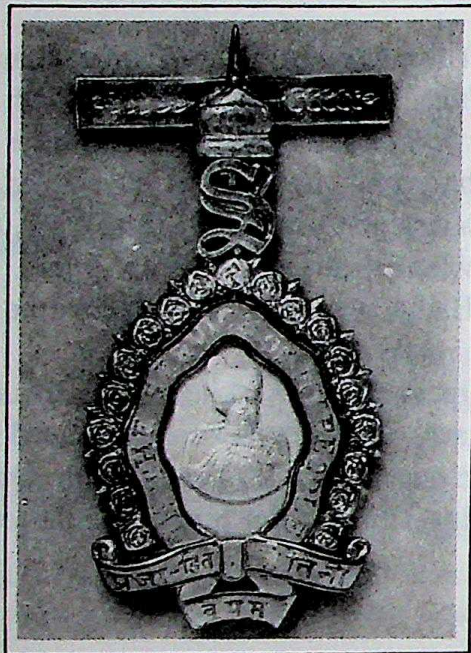


Companion (Class III)

Neck Badge

Identical to the Sash Badge for Class I but measuring 87mm x 33mm and suspended from a ribbon 1 1/4 inches. Ladies wore the badge from a bow above other medals and miniatures

Six awards have been traced, one from 1947 and the remainder, including a promotion from Class IV, from 1948. A miniature version was authorised (35mm x 17mm), to be worn as a breast badge.

Officer (Class IV)**Breast Badge**

Similar design to the Class I Sash Badge except that instead of the ring and pearl-drop suspension the badge has a fixed bar suspender behind the *chhatar* engraved with leaf patterns. The flower buds and cypher "S" are in silver gilt rather than enamel and the ribbon was 1 1/4 inches wide. The badge measures 65mm x 32mm. Allowance was made for Ladies to wear the badge from a bow along with other medals, the bows of several awards overlapping where necessary.

Eight awards have been traced. A miniature version was issued (35mm x 17mm)

Member (Class V)

Identical to Class IV except that the badge, including the central effigy, is in silver. Ladies as for Class IV

Six awards have been traced. A miniature version was issued (35mm x 17mm)

THE ORDER OF THE STAR OF HONOUR BADGE OF HONOUR

The Bikaner Rajpatra of 30 October 1937, notification No 6-M.C. states:

"In order that fitting recognition may be accorded to the services of all those who have proved by their work their loyalty and value to the State, and further in order that this should be done according to an approved and regulated system, His Highness the Maharaja has been graciously pleased to institute Badges of Honour and Medals to fulfil that great need of modern times".

As with the Vikram Badge, although no reference has been found in the Bikaner Rajpatra notifying the change of designation, the Bikaner Army Lists for 1945 and 1947 refer to The Badge of Honour while the List for 1948 refers to The Order of the Star of Honour, suggesting that the title was changed during 1947. Again, this theory is further supported by the publication "Bikaner State Orders, Decorations and Medals", published in November 1947, which makes no mention of The Badge of

Honour but does refer to The Order of the Star of Honour. The 1945 and 1947 Army Lists place the Badge of Honour as the principal decoration of the State, but the 1948 List relegates The Order of the Star of Honour to third place after The Order of the Vikram Star and The Order of the Sadul Star of Bikaner.

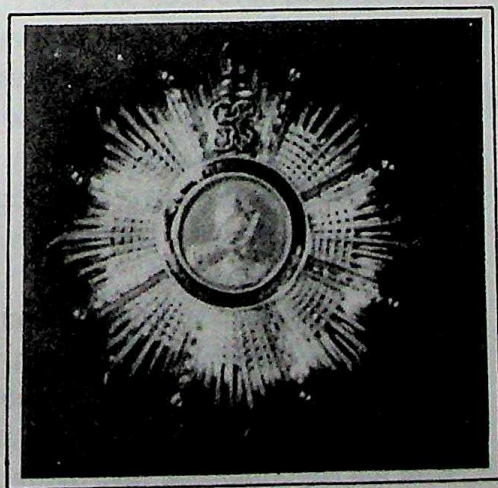
On the occasion of the institution of the Order, and to coincide with his Golden Jubilee celebrations, Ganga Singh wrote to the Viceroy seeking his approval to award what he termed "Badges of Honour" to five British subjects who had given good service to the State. The Viceroy readily agreed. From the Bikaner Rajpatra it is possible to identify one Class II, two Class III and one Class IV awards. The fifth British subject has not been identified.

Somewhat surprisingly, perhaps, given the creation of two new orders, the Order of the Star of Honour continued to be awarded during Sadul Singh's reign. For instance the Prime Minister, Kavalam Madhavji Panikkar, received the Class I award in September 1947. No statutes have been found for the Order so it is not known if numbers within any of the classes were limited at any one time.

On a tunic worn by Sadul Singh, now displayed in the Lalgarh Palace Museum, Bikaner, is a sash 10 cms wide comprised of a central band of 42mm kasumbal (red) edged on either side by 4mm kesaria (saffron), 12mm kasumbal and 13mm kesaria. Archive film showing Sadul Singh with his father in Bikaner in the late 1930s, and recent discoveries of other widths of the ribbon, confirm this as the original ribbon of the Order.

Grand Commander (Class I)

Star



Obverse An eight-pointed star. Between the points eight jewel encrusted arms. In the centre the full face bust of Ganga Singh surrounded by a garter bearing the Devanagari inscription *Jai Jangaldhar Badshah* (Victory to King Jangaldhar). On the topmost ray of the Star a *chhatra* and monogram GS.

Reverse Plain

Size Not known

Metal Not known but probably silver gilt with blue enamel garter.

Ribbon Two ribbons were used, the change being effected by Sadul Singh in February 1944 when he took the colours of the original ribbon for his newly created Order of the Vikram Star:

Original - See above.

Replacement - 10cms overall comprising 56mm central band of royal

purple edged by red (3mm), saffron (3mm), white (7mm) and dark green (9mm) Ladies wore a sash 3 1/4 inches (82mm) wide

Suspension Assumed to be pin

Designer Not known

Naming Not applicable.

Bars issued Not applicable

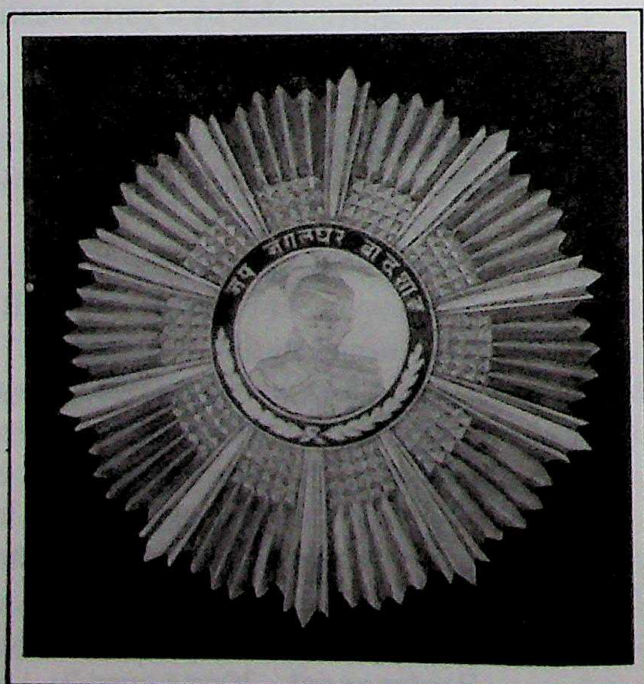
Badge

No example has been found though documents refer to an enamelled badge. It was probably similar to that for Class III but would have been worn at the hip on the sash

Ladies wore the Star on the breast, the sash pinned to the shoulder by means of a brooch and the Badge at the hip.

While not all copies of the Bikaner Rajpatra have been consulted it seems that Class I of the award was sparsely given, seventeen notifications having been found in the ten year period between its inception and September 1947, eight of these being to members of the Royal Family, including four ladies.

Commander (Class II)

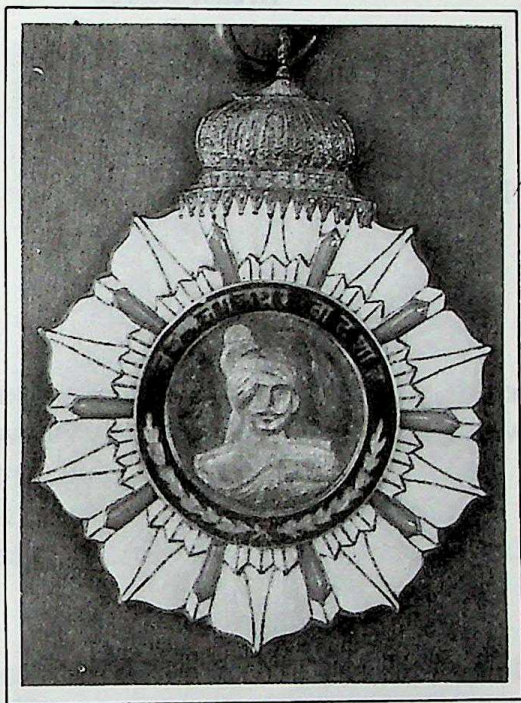


No examples have been seen but documents refer to a Breast Star and enamelled neck badge, the latter worn from a ribbon 1 1/2 inches wide coloured as for the sash. (No example of this ribbon width has been traced though a piece 1 3/4 inches (45mm) is known:- 18mm red centre edged by 2mm saffron, 5mm red and 6mm saffron). A picture of a Breast Star is known, similar to Class I but circular rather than the eight-pointed star shape and with ten superimposed rays though without jewels. 61mm in diameter, the device lacks the *chhatra* and monogram of the Class I Star. The garter containing the motto is in blue enamel. Ladies wore the badge from a bow above other medals and miniatures.

Only four notifications of the award have been found, though there may have been more than this.

Companion (Class III)

Neck Badge



- Obverse* A ten-petal device in white enamel with ten red enamel rays. In the centre the full face bust of Ganga Singh surrounded by a garter with the Devanagari inscription as for Class I. The whole surmounted by a *chhatar*.
- Reverse* Plain, convex
- Size* 59mm x 42mm
- Metal* Silver gilt and enamel
- Ribbon* **Original** - 32mm. Central red (10mm) edged by saffron (1mm), red (4mm), saffron (6mm)
Replacement - 32mm. royal purple (16mm) edged by red (1mm), yellow (1mm), white (2.5mm), dark green (2.5mm) Ladies wore the badge from a bow above other medals and miniatures
- Suspension* Ring through the *chhatar*
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* Not applicable

Fifteen notifications of the award have been found, though there may have been more than this.

A miniature version was issued (25mm x 18mm).

Officer (Class IV)

Breast Badge

Identical in design to the neck badge for Class III except that it is all gold but for the blue enamel garter. The ribbon is as for Class III. Ladies wore the badge from a bow along with other medals, the bows of several awards overlapping where necessary

Twenty three notifications of the award have been found, including two for 1948, though I have been unable to trace Rajpatra copies for 1941 and 1945 so there may have been more than this. A miniature version was issued (25mm x 18mm)

Member (Class V)

Breast Badge

As for Class IV except that it is in silver. Ladies as for Class IV

Sixteen notifications of the award have been found, though there may have been more than this. A miniature version was issued (25mm x 18mm)

(Class VI)

The Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary dated 22 October 1939, notification No 2-M.C. announced the award of a Badge of Honour, Class VI, with Crossed Swords, and a life saving monetary allowance, to an Inspector of Police for conspicuous bravery. Two further Class VI medals, without crossed swords, were also awarded to police officers. Another award of Class VI without swords was announced in 1943. In addition, the Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary, Vol LVII, No E.12 dated 2 February 1944, notification No 3-M.C. announced that:

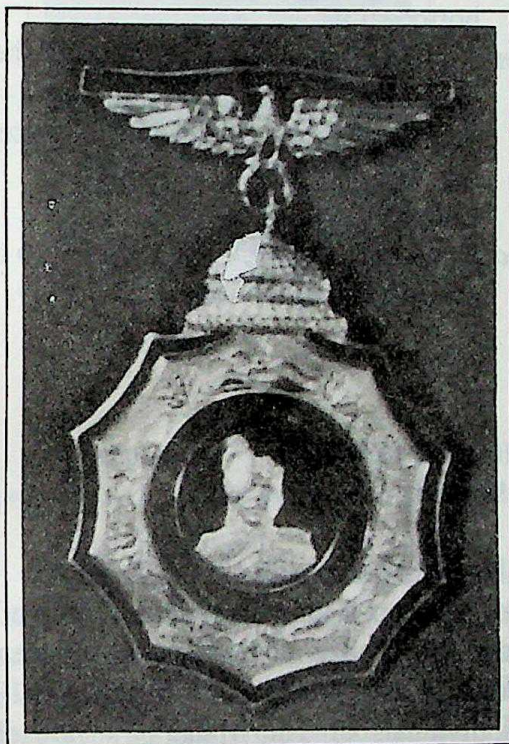
"In order to give more appropriate recognition to the services rendered by the members of the Civil Branch of the State Administration, His Highness the Maharaja has been graciously pleased to command that the Badge of Honour, Classes V and VI, be substituted by a Medal to be known as "THE CIVIL SERVICE MEDAL"..."(see later entry)

No examples of the Class VI badges have been found.

THE LEGION OF MERIT THE MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

There has been considerable confusion in identifying this medal, with some sources in Bikaner suggesting that, as the Legion of Merit, it may have existed on paper only, never actually having been awarded. Nevertheless, this title is listed in "Bikaner State Orders, Decorations and Medals", dated 27 November 1947, as the fourth ranking order. It also appears in the Bikaner Army Lists for 1948 and 1949, with one recipient only; Colonel Maharaj Sri Mandhata Singhji Bahadur, CSI, ADC, with the notation that he was awarded the honour in October 1939. It is this notation which has served to unravel the mystery. The Legion of Merit entry does not appear in earlier versions of the Army List, though the Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary dated 22 October 1939, notification No 2-M.C. announced the award to Colonel Mandhata Singhji of the Medal for Meritorious Service and it is this designation which is shown against his name in earlier Army Lists. It is clear from this that, at the same time as other badges were being re-designated in 1947, so the Medal for Meritorious Service was re-designated

the Legion of Merit, though it would seem that by then it had only one member and no others were added. The only description in official documents of the Legion of Merit is of a gold and enamelled neck badge worn from a riband 1½ inches wide. No actual example has been seen, either under this designation or the former Medal for Meritorious Service. What follows is taken from a rather poor quality picture and is incomplete.



- Obverse* A ten-pointed star with, in the centre, the bust of Ganga Singh. Around, a garter with an inscription. The quality of the photograph has not allowed full transcription. It is thought that around the top the inscription is in Devangari. Around the bottom it is in English and reads FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE. The whole surmounted by a kite with spread wings resting on a *chhatar*
- Reverse* Not known
- Size* Not known
- Metal* Probably gold and enamel
- Ribbon* 39mm orange with 8mm central blue stripe and 2mm blue stripe at each edge
- Suspension* Straight bar between points of kite's wings
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Not known
- Bars issued* Probably none

Apart from Colonel Mandhata Singhji's award in 1939, the only other reference to this being awarded has been found in the Bikaner Rajpatra of 1937, to Honorary Colonel Rao Bahadur Thakur Sir Sadul Singhji of Bagseu, Kt, CIE, ADC. His name does not appear in Bikaner Army Lists from 1945 onwards - the only ones so far traced - suggesting that he had died by then. It would appear that no other awards of the medal were made. A miniature ribbon is known suggesting that a miniature version was authorised, though whether it was ever actually issued is not known.

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THE HOUSEHOLD MEDAL (Maharaja Ganga Singh, 1887-1943)

Awarded in three classes, I (Gold), II (Silver), III (Bronze).

- Obverse* The full face bust of Ganga Singh in full dress military uniform within a beaded border
- Reverse* The monogram GS with, around the



- Size* 32mm
Metal Gilt, silver or bronze
Ribbon 32mm saffron with 3mm red diagonal stripes running top left to bottom right
Suspension A ring through a ball at the top of the medal connected to a straight bar suspender with bow and ribbon pattern
Designer Not known
Naming Unnamed
Bars issued None. Additional recognition led to the award of a higher class.

Miniatures were issued for the gold and silver classes.

85

THE MAHARAJA'S HOUSEHOLD MEDAL (Maharaja Sadul Singh, 1943-50)

Originally awarded in three classes, I (Gold), II (Silver), III (Bronze) until 2 February 1944 when Class I was merged into Class IV of the newly formed Vikram Badge (later, the Order of the Vikram Star). On this date the Silver medal became Class I and the Bronze medal Class II. Somewhat confusingly, therefore, the Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary, Vol LXI, No. 24, dated 19 September 1947, notification No 1-M.C., announced the award to several individuals of The Maharaja's Household Medal, Class I (Gold) or Class II (Silver). This confusion is perpetuated in the 1947, 1948 and 1949 editions of the Bikaner Army List, showing the first of these awards as dating from 1 January 1946. It would therefore seem that between February 1944 and January 1946 there were further changes, details of which have not been located.



- Obverse* A seven-sided device with, in the centre, the full face bust of Sadul Singh in military uniform. Around, the Devanagari inscription *Maharaja Shri Sadul Singhji Bahadur* (His Highness Sadul Singh Bahadur). The whole surmounted by a *chhatar*
Reverse In the centre the cypher S surmounted by a *chhatar*. Around the top in English FOR LOYAL AND FAITHFUL SERVICE. Immediately below this the Devanagari legend *Swami Bhakti Raj Sewa* (For loyal and faithful service) and below the cypher



	the inscription, also in Devanagari, <i>Raj Shri Bikaner</i> (King of Bikaner)
<i>Size</i>	42mm x 35mm
<i>Metal</i>	Originally gilt, silver or burnished copper. Gilt (Gold) discontinued February 1944 but possibly reintroduced in 1946
<i>Ribbon</i>	33mm blue with 9mm red (kasumbal) stripe on the left and saffron (kesaria) on the right. (Note: the illustration in Dr Karni Singh's book has been reversed)
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring through the <i>chhatar</i>
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None. Additional recognition led to the award of a higher class

A miniature version was issued for the Gold and Silver medals (26mm x 19mm) but, in accordance with standard practise, not for the Bronze medals.

Recipients of both The Household Medal and The Maharaja's Household Medal were authorised to wear both. For instance, a recipient of Class II of the former who then received Class I of the latter was not considered to have been promoted, but to have received a separate grant. The senior class of the two, of whichever reign, was worn first but if both medals were of the same class then precedence was given to The Household Medal (Ganga Singh) over The Maharaja's Household Medal (Sadul Singh).

THE PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL

There is some confusion about this medal. "Bikaner State Orders, Decorations and Medals" dated 27 November 1947 refers to an enamelled medal around the neck and to Class I (Gold), II (Silver) and III (Bronze or Burnished Copper) breast badges. Evidence collected to date, however, suggests that the enamelled badge of Class I, which was only awarded during the reign of Ganga Singh, was worn instead of, rather than as well as, a breast badge, though when worn in miniature it was worn as a breast badge. A completely different design without enamels was introduced during the reign of Sadul Singh.

(Maharaja Ganga Singh)

<i>Obverse</i>	An oval badge similar in design to the Kaiser-i-Hind medal, perhaps reflecting the award of the Gold medal to Ganga Singh in 1900 for famine relief. In the
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*Reverse**Size*

centre the monogram GS. Around, an open wreath, the whole surmounted by a *chhatar*. In the First Class example the outer band bearing the open wreath is in red enamel, the remainder in gold. A plain centre, possibly intended for the name of the recipient. Around the top the Devanagari inscription *Propkaar* (For Public Service). Around the bottom in English FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

50mm x 35mm

Metal

Gilt and enamel, silver or bronze

Ribbon

31mm. 9mm Blue, 1mm white, narrow blue, 2.5mm green, narrow blue, 4mm red centre - same in reverse

Suspension

Ring

Designer

Not known

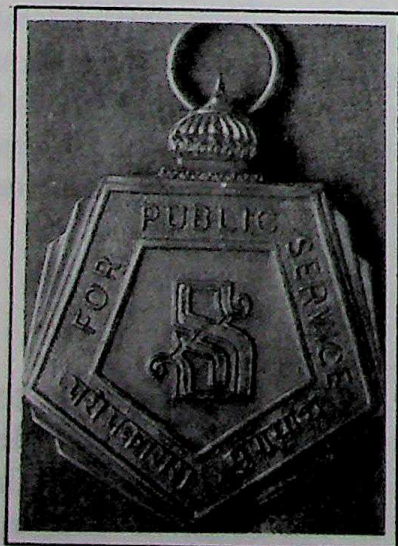
Naming

The only examples seen were unnamed but it may be that the central oval on the reverse was intended for the recipient's name

Bars issued Probably none. Additional recognition was probably by way of promotion to a higher class.

A miniature version was issued for the First Class and was probably issued for the other two as well

(Maharaja Sadul Singh)

*Obverse*

A pentagonal medal with, in the centre, the initial S surrounded by a border. In the top in English FOR PUBLIC SERVICE. Around the lower half the Devanagari inscription *Propkaar* (For Public Service). The whole surmounted by a *chhatar*

Reverse

Plain

Size

45mm x 35mm

Metal

Gilt, silver or burnished copper

Ribbon

31mm. 9mm Blue, 1mm white, narrow blue, 2.5mm green, narrow blue, 4mm red centre - same in reverse

<i>Suspension</i>	Ring through loop behind <i>chhatar</i>
<i>Designer</i>	Barton
<i>Naming</i>	The only examples seen have been unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None. Additional recognition led to the award of a higher class

A miniature version was issued for the gold and silver medals but, in accordance with standard practice, not for the burnished copper medal.

The Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary, Vol LV. No E.53, dated 19 October 1942, notification No 4-M.C. announced the award of the Public Service Medal, Class IV, with Crossed Swords, for Bravery, to two soldiers of the Dungar Lancers, and two Class IV awards without Crossed Swords to a Headmaster and a Police Inspector. No other references to Class IV have been found and no examples of the badges have been found.

Recipients of a medal issued by Ganga Singh ceased to wear this when promoted to a higher class of the medal under Sadul Singh.

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THE CIVIL SERVICE MEDAL

The Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary, Vol LVII., No E.12, dated 2 February 1944, notification No 3-M.C. announced:

"In order to give more appropriate recognition to the services rendered by the membership of the Civil Branch of the State Administration, His Highness the Maharaja has been graciously pleased to command that the Badge of Honour, Classes V and VI, be substituted by a medal to be known as "THE CIVIL SERVICE MEDAL", which will consist of three classes - Class I being in gold, Class II in silver and Class III in burnished copper."



<i>Obverse</i>	A six-sided device having in the centre the letter S within a circle. Around a band with the inscription in Devanagari <i>Mukhya Dharma Raj Sewa</i> (Public Service is primary duty). The whole surmounted by the <i>chhatar</i>
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	45mm x 30mm
<i>Metal</i>	Gilt, silver or burnished copper
<i>Ribbon</i>	33mm pinkish red with 6mm blue stripes 2mm from each edge and 1mm blue stripes inside of those by 2mm
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring through loop behind the <i>chhatar</i>
<i>Designer</i>	Barton
<i>Naming</i>	The only example seen was unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None. Additional recognition led to the

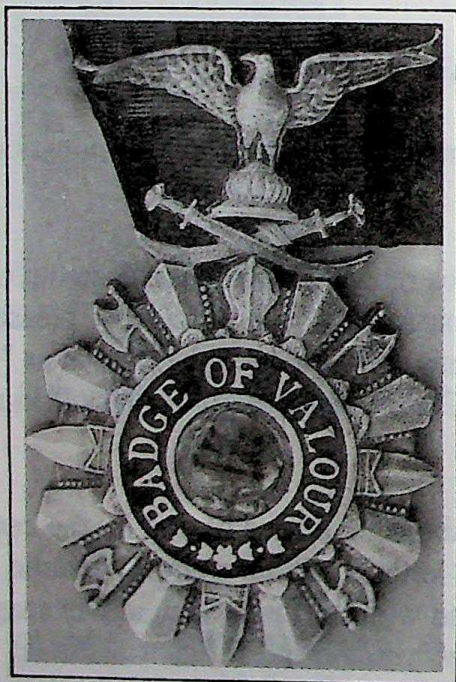
award of a higher class

A miniature version was issued for the gold and silver medals but, in accordance with standard practise, not for the burnished copper.

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THE BADGE OF VALOUR

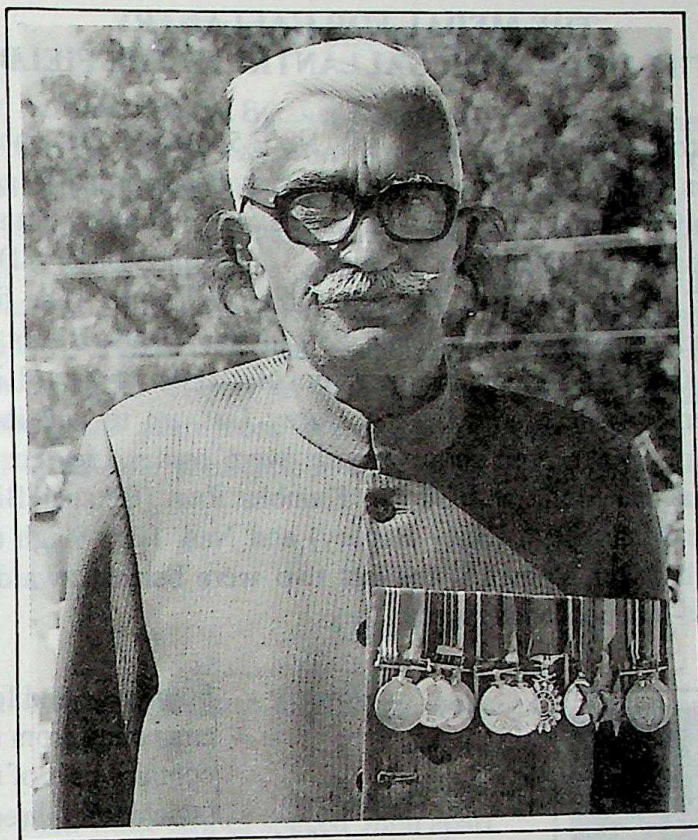
According to the editions of the Bikaner Army List so far consulted, from 1945 to 1949, and to other sources in Bikaner, only three were awarded, all to the Bijey Battery, and all gazetted in September 1945. Lieutenant (later Lieutenant Colonel) Shiv Singh won his award on 23 December 1944 while serving as a Forward Observation Officer in support of 1/11 Sikhs in the Arakan defence. The other two recipients were Captain Heer Singh and Havildar Fateh Singh.



Obverse In the centre the ber tree in green enamel, surrounded by a blue enamel garter with, in white, the legend BADGE OF VALOUR. Emanating from this, sixteen points, three of which are *katars*, four of which are axe heads, one of which is a curved shape and the remainder are broad points. Between each point a studded solid ground. The whole surmounted by a kite with spread wings resting on a *chattar* and crossed tulwars.

Reverse Plain
Size 55mm high x 37mm wide
Metal Silver and enamel
Ribbon 32mm red with two green stripes, each 2mm, towards each edge
Suspension Straight bar behind the kite's wings
Designer Not known
Naming Unnamed
Bars issued In the event of a second award it was intended that it be denoted by a silver rosette of the flower of the ber tree. In fact, none was ever issued.

A miniature version of the medal was authorised but according to Lieutenant Colonel Shiv Singh was never issued.



Lieutenant Colonel Shiv Singh

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THE LONG AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL (Sadul Singh's Reign)

The Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary, Vol LVII, No E.5, dated 3 December 1943, notification No 1-M.C. announced that, in order that fitting recognition may be accorded to long and distinguished service in the Bikaner State Army, His Highness the Maharaja had been graciously pleased on the occasion of his birthday, to institute a medal to be known as The Medal For Long and Distinguished Service. Although no mention is made of different classes, the first recipient was Major General Jaideo Singhji, Sardar Bahadur, CIE, OBI, ADC, General Officer Commanding, Bikaner State Army, and his entry stipulated Class I. Nevertheless, the September 1945 and later editions of the Bikaner Army List, up to and including 1949, only record one other recipient, Colonel R B Thakur Balu Singhji, Sardar Bahadur, OBI, IDSM, though the designation "Class I" is replaced with "Gold". Indeed, "Bikaner Orders, Decorations and Medals" dated 27 November 1947 merely makes mention of a gold badge to be worn at the breast from a ribbon 1 1/4 inches wide, so it seems likely that there was only one class. No description and no example has been found. Dr Karni Singh's book does not list this award but he does show a ribbon for a medal, possibly the Long Service Medal (Class I - Officers) which is contradicted by other evidence. While trying to avoid confusion with the Long Service Medal, details of which are given later, it may be that the ribbon shown by Karni Singh properly belonged to this award. It was 28mm; red or maroon with four white stripes, each 2mm wide spaced 6mm and 10mm respectively from each edge.

THE MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY THE MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY IN THE FIELD

The Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary, Vol LVII, No E.5, dated 3 December 1943, notification No 1-M.C. announced that, in order that fitting recognition may be accorded to gallantry in the Field, His Highness the Maharaja had been graciously pleased on the occasion of his birthday, to institute a medal to be known as The Medal For Gallantry in the Field. "Bikaner Orders, Decccrations and Medals" dated 27 November 1947 merely refers to The Medal For Gallantry. The first two recipients were Subedar Mannu Khan and Jemadar Narain Singh, both of the Ganga Risala (Camel Corps) and the Rajpatra entry stipulates Class II, though the question of classes of award is not mentioned in the instituting order and later editions of the Bikaner Army List, up to and including 1949, make no mention of class of award. Only four more awards were made; Lieutenant Baney Singh (Army Headquarters), Subedar Jagmal Singh and Gunner Kumbha Ram (Bikaner Bijey Battery) - all dated September 1945; Havildar Malu Singh (Bijey Battery) and Naik Ishri Singh (Sadul Light Infantry) - dated November 1949. It is not known if the last two were belated awards for World War II or whether they were for post-Independence events.



- Obverse* Four large and four smaller points emanating from the centre which contains part of the State coat of arms (shield with three bars and three falcons). Around, a red garter with, in English, the inscription MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY. Behind, crossed arrows, the whole surmounted by a falcon and a longbow
- Reverse* Plain
- Size* 53mm x 36mm
- Metal* Silver and gilt with enamel
- Ribbon* 31mm green with two red stripes, each 2mm, at each edge (various shades seen).
- Suspension* Straight bar between points of longbow
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Unnamed, though possibly intended to be named on reverse
- Bars issued* Denoted by a silver rosette of the flower of the ber tree. None is recorded as having been awarded

A miniature ribbon is known suggesting that a miniature version was authorised, though whether it was ever actually issued is not known.

91

THE LONG SERVICE MEDAL

Awarded only to personnel of the Bikaner State Army and the Bikaner Police, the Medal was in two classes. Class I, a silver Badge worn on the breast, was only for Officers - both Maharaja's Commissioned and State Commissioned Officers. A total of twenty three awards have been traced, only one of which was to a police officer (six are dated November 1944, twelve are dated January 1946, one is for September 1947 and the remaining four are dated November 1948). Class II, a silver Medal worn on the breast, was for NCOs and other ranks. An NCO in possession of the medal who was subsequently appointed to a Maharaja's or State Commission continued to wear the Class II medal until such time as he was awarded the Class I, at which time he ceased to wear Class II. There is some confusion over the ribbon, and even more over the identification of the Class I award, though an example of the Class II medal sold at auction in 1992 goes some way to resolving the question of the ribbon.

Class I

No details are known except those mentioned above. Collectors and other sources variously describe the ribbon as:

1. 29mm blue with four 1mm white stripes spaced 5mm apart.
2. 32mm blue with a white stripe, 3mm wide set 6mm from each edge. This is the only ribbon for the medal mentioned by Dr Karni Singh though it was the ribbon which appeared on the Class II medal sold at auction and mentioned above. It seemed to be original when examined.
3. 31mm blue with four white stripes, each 2mm wide spaced 6mm and 10mm respectively from each edge. This ribbon is not mentioned at all by Dr Karni Singh but it has now appeared on several specimens of the medal bearing the inscription RANSURA JAGBALLABHA, including a number housed in the Maharaja Ganga Singhji Trust Museum in Bikaner. Though the medal with this inscription is mentioned by Dr Karni Singh, it is not otherwise identified by him except that he referred to a red ribbon with four white stripes. For the reasons given above, this is thought to be a possible ribbon for the LONG AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE medal. The inscription RANSURA JAGBALLABHA is not mentioned in any other documents or lists of Bikaner medals. Though one source is adamant that the RANSURA JAGBALLABHA medal is not a Long Service one, but was awarded for bravery and good conduct, it does seem, given the lack of any other references and the use of the ribbon as described, that it might well be the Class I (Officers) Long Service medal. There is no reason why an award given under those circumstances should not allude to bravery and good conduct. Though it cannot be confirmed, that is the assesment made here. Speculative as it is, therefore, the following is offered as Class I and Class II respectively.

102

91a

**Class I***Obverse*

Within a circle the cypher S. Around in a band the Devanagari inscription *Ransura Jagballabha* (Brave in Battle and Beloved of the World). The whole surrounded by a laurel wreath and surmounted by the *chhatar*

Reverse

Plain

Size

38mm x 34mm

Metal

Silver

Ribbon

31mm: blue with four white stripes, each 2mm wide spaced 6mm and 10mm respectively from each edge

Suspension

Ornamental leaf pattern with straight bar

Designer

Barton

Naming

The known example is unnamed but possibly intended to be named on the reverse

Bars issued Not known

A miniature medal should have been issued according to source documents, though none has been seen.

91b

**Class II***Obverse*

The full face bust of Sadul Singh in military uniform. Around the edge the Devanagari inscription *Maharaja Shri Sadul Singhji Bahadur* (His Highness Sadul Singh Bahadur)

Reverse

The cypher S beneath the *chhatar*. Around the top the Devanagari inscription *Raj Shri Bikaner* (Kingdom of Bikaner)

Size

33mm

Metal

Silver

Ribbon

32mm: blue with a white stripe 3mm wide set 6mm from each edge.

Suspension

Bar on two levels with, in English, FOR LONG SERVICE

Designer

Not known

Naming

The only example seen was unnamed.

Bars issued None

A miniature version of the medal was issued.

92

THE MEDAL FOR COMMENDABLE CONDUCT

Supposedly intended to be awarded to NCOs and other ranks only, one entry for 1946 is to a Lieutenant and two to Jemadars, with a further three Jemadars awarded the medal in 1947. The Lieutenant, now a retired Lieutenant Colonel, has denied that he was ever awarded the medal and this particular entry in the Bikaner Rajpatra and the Bikaner Army List would appear to be an error. It was ordained that a recipient subsequently promoted to Maharaja's or State Commissioned Officer continued to wear the medal. A total of ten awards have been traced apart from the doubtful entry for Lieutenant Mohan Singh.



Obverse The full face bust of Sadul Singh in military uniform. Around the edge the Devanagari inscription *Maharaja Shri Sadul Singhji Bahadur* (His Highness Sadul Singh Bahadur)

Reverse The cypher S beneath the *chhatra*. Around the top the Devanagari inscription *Raj Shri Bikaner* (Kingdom of Bikaner)

Size 33mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon 32mm. Centre saffron 16mm edged by white (2mm) and red (6mm)

Suspension Bar on three levels with, in English, FOR COMMENDABLE CONDUCT

Designer Not known

Naming The only example seen was unnamed but they may have been intended to be named around the rim

Bars issued Probably none



The statutes allowed for a miniature version of the medal to be issued but only for wear by officers (i.e. those recipients subsequently commissioned), not by NCOs or other ranks - an odd distinction given that it was supposedly an NCOs'/other ranks' medal

93

THE MEDAL FOR CHAMPION SHOT

An annual event, it would seem that only three medals were ever awarded; Subedar Fateh Khan (1939), Jemadar Kesri Singh (1940) and Jemadar Bhopal Singh (1943). No example has been seen and only a rather poor quality photograph is known, so what follows is somewhat incomplete.

Obverse A circular medal with the State coat of arms. Around the top the inscription in English, BIKANER ARMY



CHAMPIONSHIP. Under the coat of arms, in English, BEST SHOT. A half wreath around the lower rim.

<i>Reverse</i>	Not known
<i>Size</i>	Probably 33mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	30mm maroon with a pale blue stripe 3mm wide and 3mm from each edge
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Not known
<i>Bars issued</i>	The statutes allowed for bars to be denoted by a silver rosette representing the flower of the ber tree, though it seems unlikely any were ever issued.

Unlike all other silver medals no miniature version was issued for this medal

SILVER JUBILEE MEDAL 1912



Obverse Full face effigy of Maharaja Ganga Singh in military uniform. Around the edge the Devanagari inscription *Maharajadhiraj Shri Ganga Singhji Bahadur* (His Highness Ganga Singh Bahadur).

Reverse In the centre the monogram GS with *chattar* above. Around the edge, in Devanagari, the inscription *Raj Shri Bikaner 1887-1912 Rajat Mahotsava*. The dates are also included in Roman numerals. (Kingdom of Bikaner 1887-1912 Silver Jubilee)



<i>Size</i>	32mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm. 1mm white, 9mm dark blue, 1.5mm kesaria (saffron), 1.5mm kasumbal (red), 6mm light blue centre then reverse order
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

95

GOLDEN JUBILEE MEDAL 1937

The Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary dated 30 October 1937, Notification No 7-M.C., announced that "His Highness the Maharaja has been graciously pleased to signalize the Golden Jubilee of his Reign by signifying his decision to confer upon deserving persons a suitable commemorative medal to be called the Golden Jubilee Medal."

According to one source in Bikaner the medal was issued in gold to members of the Royal Family and in silver to Chiefs, Nobles, First Class Civil Servants, and all ranks of the State Forces who were on the roll on 18 September 1937, which would make a total silver issue of about 2,000. It is a fact that the Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary dated 30 September 1938, Notification No. 12-M.C., announced a gold medal to Rani Sahib of Maharaj Sri Prithi Singhji Sahib, and several silver medals, so the above would appear to be correct. At least 19 medals were awarded to British subjects with the approval of the Viceroy.



Obverse Full face effigy of Maharaja Ganga Singh in military uniform. Around the edge the Devanagari inscription *Maharajadhiraj Shri Ganga Singhji Bahadur* (King of Kings His Highness Ganga Singh Bahadur)

Reverse In the centre the monogram GS below the *chhatra*. Around the top edge the inscription in Devanagari *Raj Shri Bikaner* (Kingdom of Bikaner) and around the lower edge, again in Devanagari, *1944 Swaran Mahotsava 1994* (1944 Golden Jubilee 1994). The dates equate to A.D. 1887 and A.D. 1937.

Size 31mm

Metal Gilt or silver

Ribbon 33mm. 3mm kasumbal (red), 3mm white, 3mm light green, 15mm light blue centre, 3mm light green, 3mm white, 3mm kesaria (saffron)

Suspension Ring

Designer Barton

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None



A miniature was issued, 19mm diameter with 16mm ribbon.

THE ACCESSION MEDAL (1943)

Announced in the Bikaner Rajpatra Extraordinary, Vol LVII, No E.12 dated 2 February 1944, Notification No 1-M.C., to be presented "as a personal souvenir from His Highness to selected and deserving Officials and Non-Officials and to the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and all other attested personnel on the strength of the Bikaner State Army on the 2nd February 1943." This would have resulted in some 4,500 to military personnel alone.

As described in the introductory paragraphs, this medal was issued twice. The first issue contained a half face portrait of Sadul Singh but was later replaced by a full face version. The ribbon changed with the design of the medal.

First Issue



Obverse The effigy of Sadul Singh facing right in military uniform. Around the top edge the Devanagari legend *Maharaja Shri Sadul Singhji Bahadur* (His Highness Sadul Singh Bahadur). Around the lower edge the Sanskrit inscription *Prajahit Bartini Vyam* (In the service of my people), which was the motto of the Maharaja

Reverse The royal cypher S surmounted by the *chhatar* with the English date, 13th FEBRUARY 1943, below it. Around the top edge the Devanagari inscription *Raj Shri Bikaner* (Kingdom of Bikaner) and around the lower edge the inscription, also in Devanagari, *Magh Shuk: 9 Rajyabhishek Samvat 1999* (Magh Shukla 9 Coronation Samvat 1999)

Size 32mm

Metal Silver

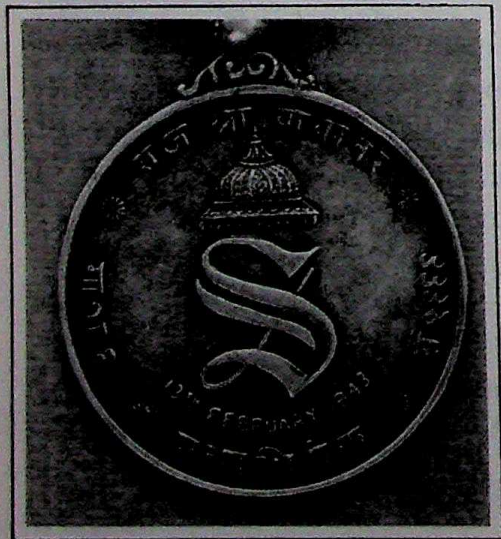
Ribbon 32mm. 1mm kesaria (saffron) and kasumbal (red) stripes on a white band 11mm, edged by 10mm purple either side

Suspension Ring

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None



Second Issue



The medal is identical to the First Issue except that the half face portrait has been replaced by a full face effigy. The ribbon was 32mm and comprised a centre black stripe of 2mm edged on either side by 2mm dull red, 1mm white, thin black, 5mm green, 1mm black, 1mm yellow, 3mm light blue.

Several water colour paintings are known of designs for Bikaner orders, each prepared for Ganga Singh but apparently not brought into use. A photograph is known, however, of one badge which is almost identical to part of a water colour set marked "Class 2". 63mm in diameter, the badge consisted of a central shield in gilt with three red enamel bars on which were three silver falcons : the shield set within a gilt circle on which were four open book devices and, between, green enamel shapes, possibly representing the ber tree, the whole resting on seven broad points (in silver) with eight smaller points in gilt between, the uppermost silver point being replaced by the *chattar* in gilt. The photograph showed the badge suspended through a ring at the top of the *chattar* by a neck ribbon approximately 29mm wide divided equally into red and yellow. This ribbon does not appear in any of the references consulted on Bikaner. None of my contacts in Bikaner could recognise the badge.



CHAPTER 11

BUNDI

Area

2,220 sq miles

Population

1931 - 216,722

Founded in 1342 by Rao Dewa of the Hara clan of Chauhan Rajputs, Bundi originally occupied a much larger tract of land in Rajputana which included the territories of Kotah and Jhalawar and was known collectively as Haraoti, after the dominant family. The ruling family of Bundi lost its title to the other territories in about 1625. The State suffered under the supremacy of the Mahrattas and was harrassed by the forces of Holkar and Scindia but in 1818 Maharao Raja Bishen Singh concluded a treaty of protection with the British by which the State paid an annual tribute to the British.

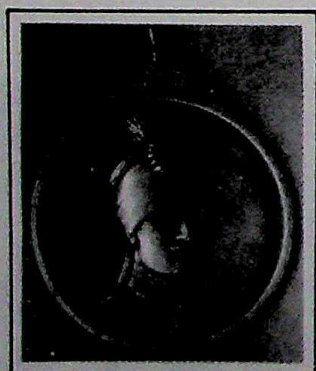
Bishen Singh was succeeded by Ram Singh (1824-1889), who in turn was succeeded by Raghubir Singh (1889-1927). He was succeeded, on 8 August 1927, by his nephew, Mahārao Raja Sir Iswari Singh, who was invested with full ruling powers in the following month, on 26 September 1927. Ribbon collectors refer to a ribbon, 38mm wide and divided into equal stripes of golden yellow/red/golden yellow, as the **ACCESSION MEDAL 1927**. No example of this medal has been found and it is not known if this designation is correct.

Iswari Singh adopted as his heir Kunwar Bahadur Singh of Kapren. As Maharajkumar, Major Bahadur Singh fought a gallant action in the jungles of Burma with Probyn's Horse during the Second World War and was awarded the Military Cross. He succeeded Iswari Singh in April 1945 and, although not confirmed, the date 14 May 1945 which appears on the following medal, probably commemorates his investiture with full ruling powers. He died in England while on a visit to Lord Mountbatten.

97

UNIDENTIFIED

Possibly

ACCESSION MEDAL 1945

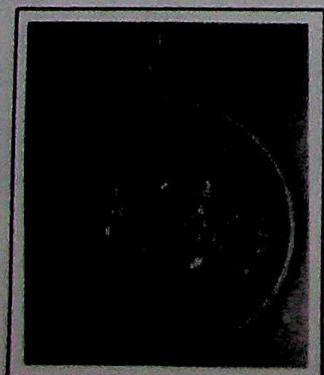
Obverse The bust of Bahadur Singh, facing half right, wearing a rich silk high-necked tunic. In his turban a large brooch supporting a plume

Reverse In the centre the State coat of arms with BAHADUR SINGH MAHARAO RAJA around the top and BUNDI 14 MAY 1945 on two lines underneath.

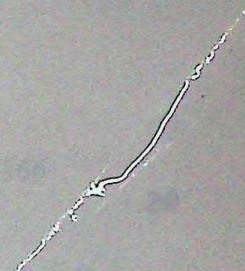
Size 34mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon Not known. Perhaps that attributed to the accession of Iswari Singh described above (38mm, divided into equal stripes of golden yellow/red/golden yellow) properly belongs to this medal.



Suspension Ornate scroll claw
Designer Not known
Naming Apparently unnamed
Bars issued Probably none



CHAPTER 12

BURDWAN

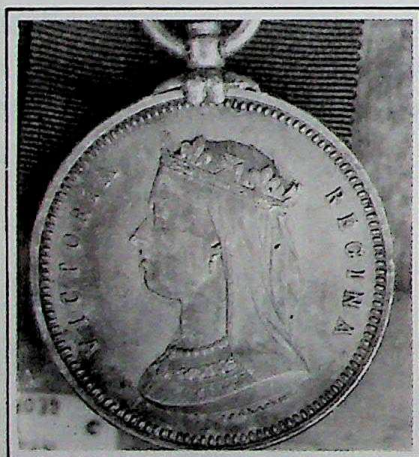
98

MAHARAJA'S MEDAL FOR LIFE SAVING

Strictly speaking this medal falls outside the scope of this work but is included because it is felt that most collectors would expect to find it here. On 22 December, 1875, the training ship HMS Goliath was destroyed by fire. An account of the incident in The Times prompted the Maharaja of Burdwan to write to the Editor of that newspaper on 28 January, 1876, saying:

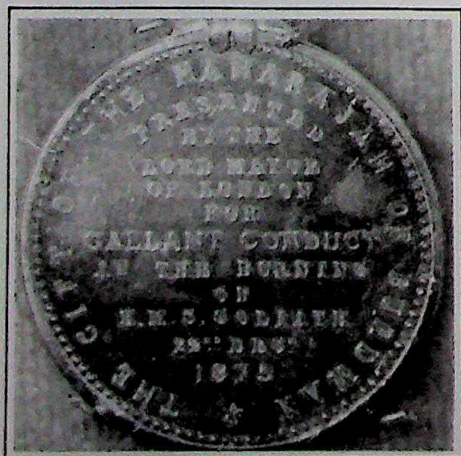
"Sir, - Having read with greatest admiration the account of the heroic conduct displayed by some of the boys of the training ship 'Goliath', on the occasion of the recent destruction by fire of that ill-fated vessel, I have felt a very strong wish to present a silver Medal to each of those who signally distinguished themselves on that occasion,...

The medals were distributed in 1876 by the Lord Mayor of London at Mansion House.



Obverse Diademed head of Victoria, facing left wearing earrings, and the Ribbon and Badge of the Star of India, with veil falling behind, beneath the Crown. Within a beaded border in relief the legend VICTORIA REGINA

Reverse Within a beaded border in relief, THE GIFT OF THE MAHARAJA OF BURDWAN. In the centre 'Presented by the Lord Mayor of London for Gallant Conduct at the burning of H.M.S. Goliath 22nd Decr. 1875'. Below the inscription, a star.



Size 36 mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon Some collectors claim 32mm red. The example photographed was blue.

Suspension Swivel ring and claw clip

Designer J.S & A.B. Wyon

Naming Indented around edge

Bars issued None

CHAPTER 13

COOCH BEHAR

*Area**1,318 sq miles**Population**1931 - 590,866*

The State was founded in 1511 by Chandan, a chieftain of the Koch tribe, a non-Aryan people of Tibetan or Dravidian origin. He was succeeded about eleven years later by Visvasimha, also seen referred to as Bisu Singh. With his brother he consolidated the kingdom in the north-eastern part of India by a number of conquests. It is from Visvasimha that the ruling family traces its descent. Visvasimha's son, Nar Narayan, extended his territory, but a subsequent family dispute caused the State to split into two. Moghul encroachment further reduced the state in size until, at the beginning of the 18th century, it reached its final land area. In 1772 there was a dispute over the succession and, following a period during which the Bhutanese installed their own nominee, the Chief Minister appealed to the British for assistance. In return for recognising the claim of Darendra Narayan, the British demanded acknowledgement of suzerainty through a 1773 subsidiary alliance with the East India Company.

The ruling family, of the Kshatriya caste, enjoyed hereditary titles of Maharaja and Bahadur, conferred in 1884, as well as the title Bhup Bahadur as a family distinction.

Maharaja Sir Nripendra Narayan Bhup Bahadur, GCIE, CB (1863-1911) was ADC to King Edward VII and King George V and attended both coronations in England. He died in England in 1911 and was succeeded by his son, Maharaja Rajendra Narayan, who drank himself to death within two years, apparently in protest over a failed love affair. He was succeeded by his younger brother, Jitendra Narayan (September 1913-1922) who in turn was succeeded by his son, Jagadipendra Narayan, then aged seven (December 1922-1947).

The State was included in the Eastern States Agency in 1936.

Given the fact that Nripendra Narayan attended the 1911 Coronation in England (22 June), but died there before the 1911 Delhi Durbar (12 December), it is assumed that the first medal referred to below, the DURBAR MEDAL 1911, was instituted by Raja Rajendra Narayan.

DURBAR MEDAL 1911

99

No example of the actual medal has been located. Its existence is known only by the ribbon, 32mm wide, a central sky blue stripe (9mm) edged by chocolate brown (11.5mm)

No accession medal is known for Maharaja Rajendra Narayan. The following commemorates the accession of his brother, Jitendra Narayan.

100

ACCESSION MEDAL 1913

Obverse An oval shaped medal. Within a border of flowers and looped cord, a full face bust of Jitendra Narayan wearing a rich silk high-necked tunic with a triple string of pearls and what looks like a large pearl brooch at the neck. The turban is adorned with a large plume, held in place by a brooch. The oval medal surmounted by a five-pointed crown.

Reverse In the centre the State coat of arms with the date 1913 below. Around, in a border, JITENDRA NARAYAN BHUP, with flowers and looped cord in the lower segment.

Size 29 x 32mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon The commonly accepted ribbon is 33m, divided horizontally by alternate stripes of pale blue/green and chocolate brown, each 10mm deep. One specimen sold at auction in 1991 had a 39mm pale lemon yellow neck ribbon. No other reference to this has been found.

Suspension Stud and ring at top of crown

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None



A miniature was issued

101

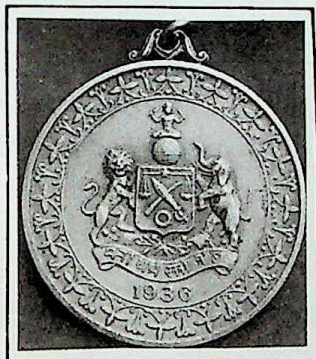
UNIDENTIFIED

Possibly

ASSUMPTION OF FULL POWERS - JAGADIPENDRA NARAYAN - 1936

This medal has only recently come to light and its existence had not been suggested by ribbon collectors who have no known ribbon for it. As already mentioned, Jagadipendra Narayan succeeded to the *gaddi* in December 1922, aged seven years. He was invested with full ruling powers on 6th April

1936.



- Obverse* A full face bust of Jagadipendra Narayan in high necked tunic. Around the edge a border of flowers and leaves.
- Reverse* The State coat of arms with the date 1936 below. Around the edge a border of flowers and leaves.
- Size* 37mm
- Metal* Silver
- Ribbon* Not known but possibly 36mm divided equally into dark blue and sky blue (see Household Medal below)
- Suspension* Ring and ornamental loop
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* Not known, probably none

102

SILVER JUBILEE 1947

- Obverse* The bust of Jagadipendra Narayan facing right in full dress military uniform with aigillette. The lungi has a tall plume at the top. Around the upper edge the Bengali inscription *Maharaja Jagaddipendra Narayan*
- Reverse* The State coat of arms. Above the Bengali legend *Raja 3 jayati* and below *Kuchbihar Raja k 438 C.B. (1947 A.D.)*
- Size* 38mm
- Metal* Silver
- Ribbon* 32mm. A central dull red stripe (18mm) edged by green/orange/green, the green 2mm and the orange 3mm
- Suspension* Claw and ring
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* None

A miniature was issued.

The ribbon described above was for a long time accredited by ribbon collectors to CHOTA UDAIPUR CORONATION. It was properly identified amongst a group of medals awarded to Brigadier Harnuth Singh of Jaipur. Gayatri Devi, third wife of Man Singh II of Jaipur, was the sister of Jagadipendra Narayan. Both Jagadipendra Narayan and Man Singh II came to their respective *gaddis* in 1922 and both celebrated their silver jubilees in 1947. Because of the family connections, both States sent contingents of their troops to each other's Jubilee celebrations and these were awarded the respective medals.

103

HOUSEHOLD MEDAL

Identified only by the existence of a ribbon 36mm wide, divided equally into dark blue and sky blue. No example of the medal has been located and it is not known under whose reign the medal was awarded. Given the recent discovery of the possible ASSUMPTION OF FULL POWERS MEDAL - 1936 it is possible that this ribbon belongs to that medal and that the term HOUSEHOLD MEDAL is a misnomer.

CHAPTER 14

DANTA

*Area**347 sq miles**Population**1931 - 26,172*

A small 9-gun (later raised to 11-gun) salute state in western Rajputana, the rulers of Danta were head of the Parmar clan of Rajputs, descended from Emperor Vikramaditya of Ujjain. Raja Dharni Varah, one of the descendants of Vikram, divided the kingdom amongst his nine brothers, keeping only to himself the Province of Sindh. Descendants of his held this for three centuries until driven back by the Muslim invaders to Mount Arasur where Raja Shri Jasrajji conquered the surrounding country and laid the foundations of Danta State in 1068. Originally a large state, a series of protracted wars with Idar in the 16th and 17th centuries greatly reduced its size and wealth. At one point Emperor Akbar quarrelled with his son, Prince Salim, who wandered India seeking shelter but, fearing the consequences, none would give it to him until he met Rana Shri Askaranji of Danta. When Akbar and Salim had patched up their differences, and on learning of Askaranji's consideration for his son, Akbar bestowed on Askaranji the title of Maharana.

Maharana Shri Sir Bhavanisinghji Bahadur was born on 13 September 1899 and succeeded to the *gaddi* on 10 March 1926. The Administration Report of the State for 1935-36 reported that three new orders had been created during the year with a view to recognising the services rendered by State officials, servants and members of the public: the **ORDER OF THE RAJYA RATNA MANDAL** (a gold medal), the **ORDER OF THE RAJYALANKAR MANDAL** (a silver medal), and the **ORDER OF THE GUNADARSHA MANDAL** (a silver medal). These honours were distributed on the anniversary of the Maharana's birthday until the outbreak of the Second World War, and subsequent State Administration Reports identify a total of 3 recipients of the Rajya Ratna Mandal, 4 recipients of the Rajyalankar Mandal and 12 recipients of the Gunadarsha Mandal. During the War large-scale birthday celebrations were suspended and no awards were made.

Unfortunately the Administration Reports do not further identify the medals and enquiries in Danta have failed to trace any information about them. They are not, as far as I am aware, mentioned in any ribbon collections

CHAPTER 15

DATIA

Area

912 sq miles

Population

1931 - 158,834

A state located north-west of Orchha in Central India, it was founded in 1626 when Bir Singh Deo of Orchha gave the territory to his son, Bhagwan Rao. The first Treaty of Alliance between the British Government and Datia was signed with Rao Raja Pareecheet (also seen as Parichhat) at Koonjun Gath on 15 March 1804. Following the defeat of the Peshwa, and in return for help given to the British by the ruler, further territory was added to Datia in 1817 and a new treaty concluded. The hereditary titles of Maharaja and Lokendra were conferred in August 1865 and January 1877 respectively.

Maharaja Lokendra Sir Govind Singh Bahadur came to the *gadi* in August 1907 on the death of his father, Bhawani Singh, and ruled until Independence. He celebrated his Silver Jubilee in March 1933.

There existed a State Order, apparently in two classes, which is known by its ribbon though no insignia have been located. The First Class sash 10cms, consisted of a royal blue centre (58mm), edged by golden yellow (5mm), white (11mm) and royal blue (5mm). The Second Class ribbon was in a similar pattern but measuring 48mm (5mm/6mm/3mm/20mm/3mm/6mm/5mm) (104)

105

LOYAL AND FAITHFUL SERVICE MEDAL

It is not known if this was, in fact, a part of the State Order.



Obverse The bust of Govind Singh facing half right and wearing a tunic with pearls at the neck. Around the top the inscription FOR LOYAL AND FAITHFUL SERVICE

Reverse The State coat of arms with DATIA STATE beneath and the manufacturers name, SPINK LOND. at the rear foot of each supporter

Size 39mm

Metal Both 18ct gold and silver

Ribbon Not known

Suspension Ring and ball

Designer Spink, London

Naming The gold specimen seen was engraved in capitals on the rim. The silver version was unnamed.

Bars issued Not known



BARONI MEDAL

In November 1928 the Bharatpur Administrator reported to the Government that a medal had recently been received from the Dewan of Datia for presentation to Khan Sahib Naqi Mohammed Khan (a British subject but at that time serving as Superintendent of Police, Bharatpur). The medal had been granted in recognition of his energy and gallantry displayed in the capture of an outlaw in August 1927. The Government ordered that the medal could not be presented, but had to be returned to Datia. No description of the medal was given at the time but two examples have been seen.



Obverse The Datia coat of arms as shown on the Long and Faithful Service Medal, but engraved.

Reverse An open wreath of lotus leaves around the edge. In the centre, engraved in capitals on six lines, the inscription in English, PRESENTED FOR GOOD WORK AT BARONI 1928 (another example has been seen with the date 1927)

Size 38mm

Metal white metal

Ribbon Not known

Suspension Ring and loop

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Not known, probably none

Given the timing of the notification from the Bharatpur Administrator, it is possible that the medal with 1928 in the inscription was that intended for presentation to Khan Sahib Naqi Mohammed Khan, the date indicating the presentation rather than the incident. The medal with 1927 in the inscription may have been given to a local Datia police officer also involved with the capture of the outlaw. Both are very rare.

CHAPTER 16

DEWAS JUNIOR BRANCH

Area

419 sq miles

Population

1931 - 70,513

The founders of both Dewas States were brothers of the Puar (Parmar) Rajput tribe, Tukoji Rao and Jiwaji Rao, who came to Maiwa in about 1726 A.D. with Peshwa Baji Rao I and received from him as a reward for army service Dewas, Sarangpur, Alote, Gadgucha, Ringnode, Bagode, and shares in other areas. Through their inter-marriage with Marathas they lost their position as Rajputs but held the highest rank among Marathas. The two brothers divided the land equally, creating Dewas Senior and Dewas Junior Branches of the State. For a long time the affairs of the States were administered by one Minister but in 1841 they went their own ways and became separate in all respects. Largely due to its geographical location Dewas suffered much at the hands of the armies of Holkar and Scindia, and from Pindari incursions. In 1818 the State came under British protection. The rulers of the two branches were generally equal in rank, power and authority and both were entitled to a permanent salute of 15 guns.

His Highness Malhar Rao Baba Sahib Puar succeeded his uncle in 1900 and ruled until his death on 4 February 1934. For services during the First World War he was granted the title Maharaja as an hereditary distinction. He was succeeded by his step-brother, Maharaja Sadashiv Rao Khase Sahib Puar, who had served as Home Member in the Gwalior government until he succeeded to his own state. He was the last ruler of Dewas Junior and was still alive in 1971 when the privileges of the princes were finally abolished.

107

UNIDENTIFIED SERVICE MEDAL

(I was unable to photograph this medal)

<i>Obverse</i>	The full bust of H.H. Malhar Rao Baba Sahib Puar, in turban typical of the Dewas Puars, with three medals on his chest, the whole within a beaded circle.
<i>Reverse</i>	Around the edge the Devanagari legend <i>Shri Malhar Pradeshmo Dewas Rajya</i> (2)
<i>Size</i>	31mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	Not known
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring and loop
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	A name appears to have been engraved in Persian, in dots, on the reverse in the blank space below the inscription.
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known, probably none

CHAPTER 17

DEWAS SENIOR BRANCH

Area

449 sq miles

Population

1931 - 83,321

The founders of both Dewas States were brothers of the Puar (Parmar) Rajput tribe, Tukoji Rao and Jiwaji Rao, who came to Malwa in about 1726 A.D. with Peshwa Baji Rao I and received from him as a reward for army service Dewas, Sarangpur, Alote, Gadgucha, Ringnode, Bagode, and shares in other areas. Through their inter-marriage with Marathas they lost their position as Rajputs but held the highest rank among Marathas. The two brothers divided the land equally, creating Dewas Senior and Dewas Junior Branches of the State. For a long time the affairs of the States were administered by one Minister but in 1841 they went their own ways and became separate in all respects. Largely due to its geographical location Dewas suffered much at the hands of the armies of Holkar and Scindia, and from Pindari incursions. In 1818 the State came under British protection. The rulers of the two branches were generally equal in rank, power and authority and both were entitled to a permanent salute of 15 guns.

Tukoji Rao III succeeded his uncle, Krishnaji Rao II in October 1899. For his services during the First World War he had been granted the hereditary title of Maharaja. In 1933, however, he not only split with his son, the Yuvraj Vikramsinharao, but also fell out with the Political Department of the Government of India and, when ordered to submit to an external audit, fled to French Pondicherry rather than submit to such humiliation. The Government placed the administration of the State in the hands of the Yuvraj with effect from 26 July 1934 and there it remained until, on 21 December 1937, Maharaja Tukoji Rao died and Vikramsinharao formally succeeded to the *gadi*.

On the outbreak of the Second World War he volunteered for military service and, having undergone training at OTS Mhow, was commissioned into the Mahratta Light Infantry. During his absence on active service he appointed his wife, the Maharani Pramilaraje, to act as Regent.

In 1942 Maharaja Holkar of Indore had to go to America for medical treatment. He therefore asked that Vikramsinharao should officiate for him during his absence and so, given leave from the army, he took over as President of the Council and C-in-C of Indore State Forces in September 1942. On relinquishing these appointments in May 1943 he was appointed by Holkar to the premier order of Indore, the Ahilya Holkar Saltanat.

On 28 September 1946, Chhatrapati Shivaji of Kolhapur died before he was five years old. Vikramsinharao, the son of a Kolhapur princess and grandson of Shahu Chhatrapati (1884-1922), who had earlier staked a claim to be recognised as heir, now did so again. He was duly adopted by Maharani Tarabai and so abdicated from Dewas Senior on 23 March 1947 in favour of his son, then still a minor. He took over at Kolhapur a week later. It is for this reason, therefore, that his effigy appears not only on one of the medals shown below, but also on a medal of Kolhapur.

The new Maharaja of Dewas Senior, Krishnajirao Puar III, never actually ruled the State. Being a minor a Council of Regency was set up, with his mother as head. On 27 June 1948 Dewas Senior was merged into India.

108

SENA SUPTA SAHSTRI

Obverse The bust of Vikramsinharao. The legend in Devanagari character around the top *Vikram Singh Sena Supta Sahstri* (Vikram Singh who has an army of seven thousand). Flowers around the lower edge.

Reverse Within a circle the Devanagari inscription *Maharaja Padak* (King's Medal). In the outer circle, at top, the inscription *Rajya Dewas* (Kingdom of Dewas), and below, *Moti Pati* (Senior)

Size Circular 31mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon Not known. From a rather indistinct black and white photo it may have been of three equal stripes, with a darker colour on the right.

Suspension Ring through loop

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Not known but probably none

109

SENA RAM SAHSTRI

(I was unable to photograph this medal)

Obverse A round ended cross. In the centre within a circle the State coat of arms with crossed tulwars behind. The whole surmounted by the royal turban. Around the edge the Devanagari legend *Sena Ram Sahstri*

Reverse Within a central circle the Devanagari inscription *Rajya Dewas Moti Pati* (Kingdom of Dewas Senior)

Size believed to be 36mm

Metal both gilt and bronze are known

Ribbon 37mm: red centre (24mm) with golden yellow edges. Other sources give 37mm: golden yellow centre (14mm) with equal red/white/red edges, though name the medal as JARIPATKA. Photographic evidence suggests the

former is correct.

Suspension Ring through loop

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Believed to be none

110

PANCHAYAT PADAK

Village Council Medal



Obverse The State coat of arms with, above, the Devanagari legend *Panchayat Padak* (Village Council Medal) and below, *Rajyadewas II* (Rajya Dewas II). Around the edge a floral design.

Reverse Within an open wreath the Devanagari inscription *सम १९१४* (A.D. 1914)

Size 37mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon Probably none

Suspension Apparently none - probably a table medal only

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None



CHAPTER 18

DHAR

*Area**1,800 sq miles**Population**1931 - 243,430*

Located in central India, the area had first been controlled by the Paramara clan of Rajputs from the ninth century until the thirteenth, after which it passed into Muslim control. A descendant of the Paramara Rajputs, Anand Rao Puar, had the territory assigned to him by the Peshwa, Baji Rao, in about 1725-30. During the first part of the nineteenth century Dhar suffered under the adverse attentions of both Holkar and Scindia until, on 10 January 1819, a Treaty of friendship and alliance was signed with the British Government. The State was confiscated during 1857 but subsequently restored to Anand Rao Puar III, who achieved self administrative status in 1864. The ruler had power of adoption so that when Maharaja Sir Udaji Rao Puar, on whom the title Maharaja had been conferred as an hereditary title, died without a son in 1926, the Dowager Maharani Laxmi Bai Saheba adopted her nephew, and named him Anand Rao Puar IV. Born in 1920, he inherited the title as a minor.

Little is known of Dhar medals and no examples have been located. Ribbon collectors generally agree that there was an award called the **ANAND MEDAL**. Some sources also refer to a **STATE GALLANTRY** award, but one refers to the **ANAND MEDAL FOR GALLANTRY**, so perhaps there was only one basic award. There is certainly only one ribbon accredited by collectors to the State; 32mm, divided half maroon and half yellow (111), though one source gives the maroon as bright red (but see Bikaner, page 107, for another reference to red and yellow).

CHAPTER 19

DHRANGADHRA

Area

1,167 sq miles (excluding that portion of the Rann of Kutch)

Population

1931 - 83,961

Located in the northern part of Kathiawar, in western India, the State was originally called Samsthana Halavada-Dhrangadhra. The rulers of the State were Rajputs, descended from rulers of an area of Sind who had been driven out in AD 1090. They had moved to the Solanki area of Gujarat where one Harapaladeva married the daughter of Pratap Solanki. According to tradition, this lady saved the lives of her children when they were playing in a yard and were charged by a mad elephant. The lady held out her arms from a window and miraculously caught up the children. *Jhalvan* is the Gujarati word for 'catching' and so her descendants became known as Jhalas and, following her death in AD 1115, worshipped her as *Sakti*.

In 1486 the Jhalas migrated to Halavad. In 1742 one of their number, Jaswant Singh, moved to Dhrangadhra and his family continued to rule the State until Independence when it merged into the Union State of Kathiawar, later to become known as Saurashtra. The last ruler, Maharaj Mayuradhva Singh, who was entitled to a permanent salute of 13 guns, came to the throne on 15 February 1942. Following Independence he became *Up-rajapramukha* of Saurashtra and later *Rajpramukha*.

According to letters from Ajitniwas Palace to Eamon O'Toole dated 1964, there were only two medals ever struck by Dhrangadhra. Subsequent information, including a booklet produced by the State, show that there was, and may still be extant (1995), an order of the State.

The Guille collection of medal ribbons held by the Orders and Medals Research Society, refers to the Shaktivat Order of Harpaldev and Visahant Devi of Jhalavada, though the entry is annotated by a question mark. Other collectors refer to the designated ribbon as the Oriel Medal. Charles Allen's "Lives of the Indian Princes" quotes Mayuradhva Singh as saying, of the offer made to him of a KCIE soon after his accession, 'he would be honoured to accept the KCIE if the King-Emperor would accept the Shaktimat Order of Dhrangadhara', so clearly the Order pre-dated 1942. The example shown below carries the designation The Shaktimat Order of Jhalavada, and so it is by that designation that the Order is recorded here, although a booklet produced by the State merely refers to The Shaktimat Medal (3 classes). Some information about the order has been forthcoming but the detail is still incomplete.

THE SHAKTIMAT ORDER OF JHALAVADA

First Class

Breast Star

Obverse

A ten pointed star, the tip of each point being slightly curved. In the centre, the Jhalavada emblem - the right palm of Shri Shakti Devi inside the Jhala Oriel in gilt; around, a blue enamel garter



with, in Devanagari script but Sanskrit language *Shri Shakti Prasadena* (by the Grace of Shri Shakti)

Reverse Plain

Size Not known

Metal Silver, gilt and enamel

Ribbon As listed by collectors, a centre black stripe edged by shaded pink. It is not known if a sash was worn with the Order and it is emphasised that it is not known for certain that this ribbon refers to this Order.

Suspension Pin

Designer The fitted case seen with the photograph of this Star has the name Cartier, Paris, inside.

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Not applicable

Neck Badge



Obverse The centre part of the Star; the Jhalavada emblem - the right palm of Shri Shakti Devi inside the Jhala Oriel in gilt; around, in a blue enamel garter, the Devanagari inscription *Shri Shakti Prasadena* (by the Grace of Shri Shakti). Around the outer edge a red enamelled wreath with the leaf design picked out in gilt. The whole surmounted by a five pointed gilt crown set with red and green diamond shaped stones.

Reverse Plain

Size Not known

Metal gilt and enamel

Suspension elongated loop at top of crown

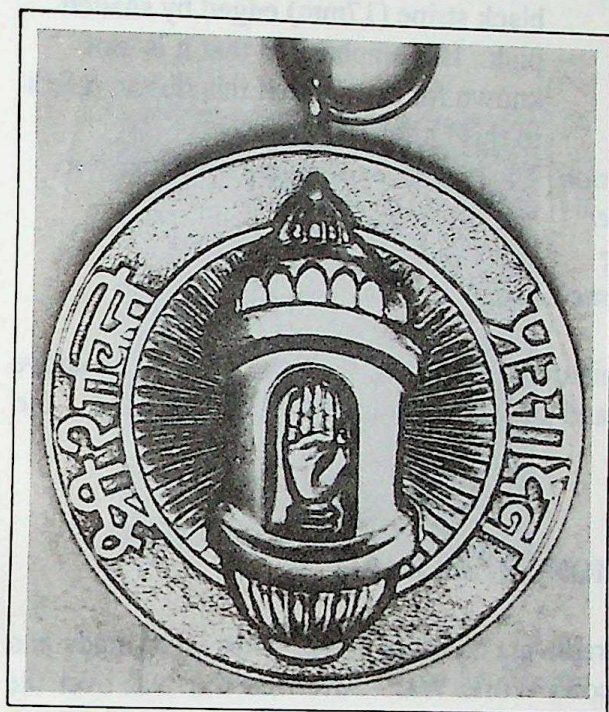
Designer see Star

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Not applicable

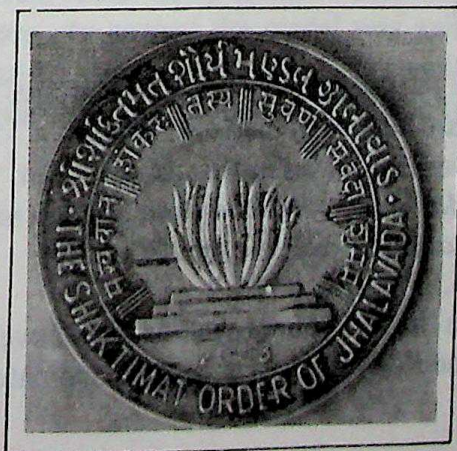
As stated above, a booklet originating from Dhrangadhra refers to three classes of the Order. Two additional devices are known from photographs but it has not been possible to ascertain whether these are Second and Third Classes respectively, nor whether they were worn as neck or breast badges.

Possible Second Class



- Obverse* A circular medal consisting of the central part of the Star: the Jhalavada emblem - the right palm of Shri Shakti Devi inside the Jhala Oriel; around the Devanagari inscription *Shri Shakti Prasadena* (by the Grace of Shri Shakti).
- Reverse* Plain
- Size* Not known
- Metal* Not known
- Ribbon* As listed by collectors, 38mm. A centre black stripe (17mm) edged by shaded pink. It is emphasised that it is not known for certain that this ribbon refers to this Order.
- Suspension* Ring and loop
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Not known
- Bars issued* Probably none

Possible Third Class



- Obverse* As for the possible second class except that the outer border has six flame-type devices in each quarter between the inscription.
- Reverse* In the centre the Makhagni-kunda (sacrificial fire-altar); below, the date 2003. Around the top in Devanagari/ Sanskrit, *Makhavana Samkarah Tasya Suvarnam Sarvada Subham*. (The Makhavana [sacrificer, the name of the royal clan] being *samkarah* [siva, beneficent, propitious] his *suvarnam* [repute, good name, nature, good clan/family, gold, coin] is ever *subham* [shining, auspicious, fortunate]) In the exergue, in English, THE SHAKTIMAT ORDER OF JHALAVADA and around the top the same title in a mixture of Devanagari and Gujarati
- Size* not recorded

<i>Metal</i>	not recorded
<i>Ribbon</i>	As listed by collectors, 38mm. A centre black stripe (17mm) edged by shaded pink. It is emphasised that it is not known for certain that this ribbon refers to this Order.
<i>Suspension</i>	The example seen had no suspension
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	Probably none

According to the booklet issued by the State a miniature was issued, with the obverse as above and a similar reverse but without the outer inscription and below, in Gujarati, JHALAVADA. No example has been found.

113

RAJYABHISHEK (CORONATION) MEDAL 1942

To commemorate the coronation of Maharaj Mayuradhvaja Singh in 1942. Dies were made and proofs prepared but the issue was deferred due to the Second World War. After the war was over the issue of the medals was approved by His Highness in Council (official order no.28/2004 dated 3 March 1948). The date of eligibility was related to the Maharaja's accession (15 February 1942) and the medal was to be issued in four classes:

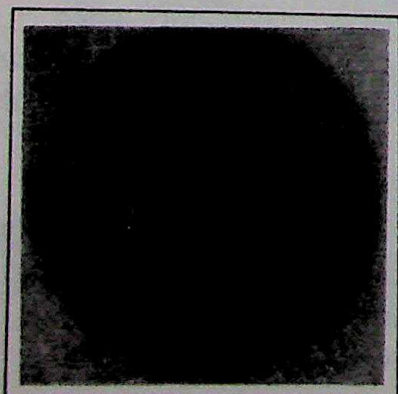
Special Class - silver gilt (assumed to be for certain members of the Royal Family)

1st Class - cupro nickel (other members of the Royal Family, State Nobles, Ministers etc)

2nd Class - silver (the majority of recipients)

3rd Class - bronze (Police Head Constables, retainers over 12 years service, Sergeants and above, all ranks at the war front, village heads)

An article by M R Bhattacharyya in 'Numismatic Digest' suggests that the medals were not, in fact, issued and states that they are now known only from the few specimens that are with the Prince's family. Given that the Huzur Hukum No.28/2004 which announced the award is dated 3 March 1948, and the State ceded to the Union State of Kathiawar on 25 March 1948, it is quite possible that the medals were not issued, though there exists a list of some of the intended recipients (137 names plus an unspecified number of non-commissioned officers and minor officials). It was intended that the medal be given in recognition of State, Household and Personal services.



<i>Obverse</i>	In the centre the young royal effigy, bare headed, facing left; around in Devanagari his name and style, <i>Jha. Ma. Sriraj Mayuradhvaja Simhaji Ma. Ra.</i> In the exergue the date "1998 V.S." (1942 A.D.)
<i>Reverse</i>	In the centre the royal diadem above the Raj-yukti (royal cypher) and date



15 Feb 1942. Around the cypher the State motto in Devanagari *Anatha Vajra Panjaro Nama Bahu*. (My arm an adamantine shelter for the lordless [helpless]). Around the outer edge, in English, CORONATION at the top, and DHRANGADHRA in the exergue. On the left, in Gujarati, *Rajyabhisheka*; on the right *Magh Vada 30*

<i>Size</i>	32mm
<i>Metal</i>	silver gilt, cupro nickel, silver or bronze
<i>Ribbon</i>	30mm. Shaded pink (5mm) navy blue (5.5mm), yellow (0.75mm) navy blue (0.75mm) yellow (3mm) and the same in reverse
<i>Suspension</i>	Though this example has no suspension the medal was designed with a ring attached to an ornate top extension to the medal
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Not known
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

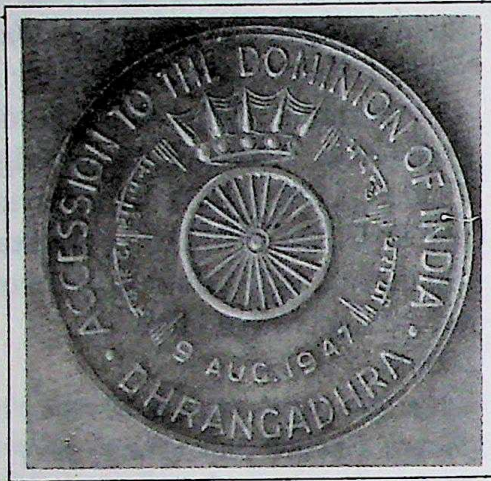
A miniature medal (19mm), was intended to be issued. It was similar in design to the main medal, with an identical obverse, but the inscription on the reverse was, in Gujarati *Sam Halavada Dharangadhara* and, in English, DHRANGADHRA

114

ACCESSION TO INDIA MEDAL, 1947

Authorised under Huzur Hukum No 28/2004 dated 3 March 1948, the eligibility date for the medal was 25 March 1948. Both the Huzur Hukum and the booklet issued by the State maintain that it was issued in one class only, in cupro nickel, although M R Bhattacharyya's article describes two different issues and a commemorative list of Recipients Designate makes a confusing reference to three classes. In general the medal was awarded in recognition of State, Public and General Services. The Huzur Hukum order named 128 intended recipients and referred to an unspecified number of third class recipients. It has not been possible to resolve this anomaly.

<i>Obverse</i>	The Ashoka Chakra with diadem above and the date 9 Aug 1947 below, with the motto in Sanskrit script, <i>Jai Hind/Sukhino Bhavantu Dhararya</i> (Hail to India. May the people of the land be happy). Around, above, in
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*Reverse*

English, ACCESSION TO THE DOMINION OF INDIA and below DHRANGADHRA

The Jhaladhip Arms (Three Jhala Oriels) with diadem above. Around, in English, HALVAD DHRANGADHRA STATE JHALAWAR KATHIAWAR INDIA. Around the outer edge, above in Gujarati, *Sam Halvada Dharangadhara*, and below, in Sanskrit, *Jhala Raj Rupam Sarva Bhadraya Rajate* (The Jhala ruler's nature [splendour/silver] shines for general welfare)

Size

32mm

Metal

silver alloy

Ribbon

30mm. Shaded pink (8mm) and pink (7mm) to the centre and then reversed

Suspension

Though this example has no suspension the medal was designed with a ring attached to an ornate top extension to the medal

Designer

Not known

Naming

Not known

Bars issued

None

Those recipients of the Accession to India Medal who had not received the Rajyabhishek (Coronation) Medal were to wear the medal reversed, i.e. the Jhaladhip Arms as obverse and the Ashoka Chakra as reverse.

A miniature medal similar in design to the main medal was authorised, though with a slightly different design.

Obverse

Ashoka Chakra with diadem above. On the left, in English, ACCESSION, on the right TO INDIA. Below, 9.8.1947

Reverse

Jhaladhip Arms with diadem above. On the left, in Gujarati, *Sam Halavada*, on the right *Dharangadhara*, below in English DHRANGADHRA

Size

19mm

Metal

cupro nickel, silvered

Although somewhat outside the scope of this work, it is worth pointing out that the State also

authorised a series of commemorative coins in gold, silver and bronze, though again there is some doubt that many were actually issued, the few now known to exist coming from the Royal family. Adopting the various design aspects of the medals described, the gold coins (*tejas*) were Mahat-Tejas-Kara (obverse, one oriel), Raja-Yukti-Mudra (obverse, effigy; reverse, cypher), Raja-Tejas-Kara (obverse, one oriel; reverse, altar), Raja-Tejas-Mukhi (obverse, effigy; reverse, altar), Raja-Tejas-Dhara (obverse, three oriels; reverse, altar) and Raja-Tejas-Yukti (obverse, cypher; reverse, altar). The three silver coins were Rajarupa-Mukhi (obverse, effigy; reverse, three oriels), Rajarupa-Kara (obverse, one oriel; reverse, cypher), and Rajarupa-Dhara (obverse, effigy; reverse, three oriels). The one copper coin, Rajatambryukti, had the effigy on the obverse and cypher on the reverse.

CHAPTER 20

FARIDKOT

*Area**640 sq miles**Population**1931 - 164,364*

Divided into two parts, Faridkot and Kot Kapura, the ruler was of the Burar Jat tribe and traced descent from Bhallan who had acquired power and influence under Akbar. Bhallan's nephew had made himself an independent ruler but in the early nineteenth century the family lost its possessions to Ranjit Singh until restored at British insistence in 1808-09. On the outbreak of the Sikh War of 1845 the ruler, Pahar Singh, sided with the British and was rewarded with the title of Raja, half the confiscated territory of Nabha, and the restoration of Kot Kapura. Wazir Singh, his son and successor, distinguished himself on the British side during the Second Sikh War of 1849, and again during the 1857 Mutiny. He was succeeded in 1874 by Bikram Singh who in turn was succeeded by his son, Balbir Singh, in 1898. He died in 1906 and the succession passed to his nephew, Brij Indar Singh, whom he had adopted. For his services during the First World War Brij Indar Singh was granted the personal title of Maharaja. When he died in December 1918 the succession passed to his son, Raja Har Indar Singh, then aged three years. Although he in turn had a son and heir, Har Mohindar Singh, born in October 1937, Har Indar Singh was in effect the last ruler of Faridkot.

Although some ribbon collectors claim three ribbons for the State, two of them are thought to be doubtful and are not included. The only ribbon that all seem to agree on is referred to as the **STATE MEDAL**. No example of the medal has been seen, nor is anything known about the conditions of award. The ribbon is divided into three equal stripes of saffron, dark red and dark green (115).

CHAPTER 21

GWALIOR

Area

26,3800 sq miles

Population

3,196,500

One of the premier Princely States, the ruler of Gwalior enjoyed a permanent salute of 21 guns. The great fort of Gwalior, which features on some of the medals, has a history dating back over 1000 years but it is the last quarter of the eighteenth century that is most relevant here. Before that the fort, and Gwalior, had been in the hands of the Tomar dynasty from the end of the fourteenth century until the early sixteenth century when it was taken by the Moghuls under Babur. Following the death of Aurangzeb this former Moghul area of Malwa fell into Mahratta hands and Gwalior fort came to be held by a petty chieftain, the Rana of Gohad.

Gwalior State had been founded by Ranuji Maharaj, a front rank Mahratta chief of the Peshwa, who acquired possessions in Malwa and died in 1750. His youngest son, Mahadaji Rao Scindia (1761-1794), nominally a servant of the Peshwa, in fact commanded a considerable army organised by French officers and made himself virtual ruler of northern India. Anxious to establish his independence from the Peshwas of Poona, he entered into a treaty of alliance with the East India Company on 13 October 1781. In 1785 he reinstalled the Moghul Emperor, Shah Alam II, to Delhi, though in effect as his puppet and by 1792 had established his supremacy over the Rajputs and Jats in northern India. It was Mahadaji who first took Gwalior fort from the Rana of Gohad but then lost it to the British. Warren Hastings restored it in 1780 to the Rana who was unable to hold it and lost it to Madhoji Rao again in 1784. Because of the Rana's treachery towards the British they did nothing on this occasion to remove Scindia.

The rule of his grand-nephew and successor, Daulat Rao Scindia (1794-1827) proved a disastrous time for Gwalior, culminating in the Anglo-Mahratta War of 1803 at which Daulat's forces were defeated. Although a treaty of alliance was signed at Burhanpur on 27 February 1804, it was the personal intervention of the Governor-General, Lord Henry Wellesley, which prevented the fort being returned to Scindia, though he was not without powerful sympathisers for his position on the British side, including Arthur Wellesley. Scindia continued to smart under what he saw as the theft of Gwalior from him until Wellesley's successor, Lord Cornwallis, promised to hand it back (it was actually restored during Sir George Barlow's time as acting Governor-General following Cornwallis's early death).

The Scindia family relationship with the British gradually improved and during the 1857 Mutiny, when the contingent at Gwalior mutineed, Jayaji Rao sought refuge at Agra. Gwalior was retaken by the British in June 1858 and the Maharaja reinstated, but it was not until 1886 that the British returned the fort to him.

It was Jayaji Rao's son, Madho Rao (1886-1925), who seems to have been responsible for the limited number of medals found for this State, though the extreme difficulties he faced with the British in instituting such medals possibly accounts for the low numbers. Madho Rao died in 1925 and was succeeded by his 9 year old son, George Jivaji Rao Scindia. He was invested with full powers on 2 November 1936. Until recently I had found no evidence to suggest that he instituted any medals but I

now believe he may have continued issuing the Gwalior Medal right up to and including the Second World War.

The first traced reference to medals occurred in 1907 when Madho Rao Scindia proposed issuing a number of awards including:

Scindia Medal. This was to have been of three types; gold, silver and gunmetal. It was intended to have a picture of the Gwalior Fort on one side and the head and name of the Maharaja on the other, with the recipient's name and year of award on the rim. It was to be suspended from a saffron coloured ribbon (*bhagwan fita*). It was intended to be a personal award for distinction in the five "heads" or major public divisions; high rank, special public services, administration of the State, military service, and preservation of public peace. Gold medals were to be limited to 10, silver to 20, and the gunmetal would be unlimited.

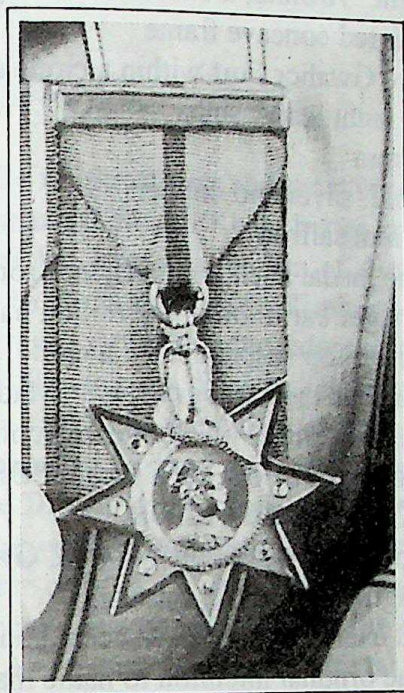
Mansib-i-Aswadi (Order of the Snake). It was to have been issued only in gold, but with two classes, gem set and plain. Again it was intended for issue to all five "heads", with gem set awards limited to 7 and plain to 15.

According to official records Scindia was not allowed to institute either award though he was allowed to issue other medals and badges, some of which apparently consisted of a portrait of himself, to be hung round the neck with a ribbon or fixed to the turban. It does seem, however, as if Scindia ignored the restriction placed upon him, though written details are untraceable and what follows is therefore something of a guess.

UNIDENTIFIED possibly SCINDIA GOLD MEDAL

Ribbon collectors refer to a piece of ribbon, gold with a central red stripe and narrow outer dark green or dark blue stripes, as belonging to the Scindia Gold Medal. No actual example of this medal has been found but there is photographic and artistic evidence to suggest that a star shaped medal was worn by a succession of Maharajas and this may, therefore, have been known as the Scindia Medal or Scindia Gold Medal. However, the date of the earliest painting featuring this star pre-dates 1907, the year in which Jayaji Rao proposed, and had rejected, the institution of a medal by that name. The artistic evidence, which focuses on the Maharajas rather than the medal, lacks detail of the medal design, though most of the paintings seem to suggest a seven pointed star.

Later portraits, particularly of the young Sir George Jayaji Rao Scindia, depict an eight pointed star and this is borne out by the photographic evidence which has produced a more accurate illustration. In one painting the ribbon matches that described by ribbon collectors (gold with a central red stripe and narrow outer green or blue stripes), but other paintings depict what seems to be a dark blue with central red stripe (1921, artist unknown), pale blue with central red stripe and narrow dark blue outer stripes (by R S Trivedy of Kahu Kothi, Cawnpore, 1927), and pale green with central golden yellow stripe.



<i>Obverse</i>	An eight-pointed star, though the uppermost point is the representation of a cobra snake. Within each of the star points a raised dot. The edges of the star would appear to be enamelled. In the centre the portrait of Madho Rao Scindia facing right. The portrait is contained within a circle formed by the body of the snake which connects to the uppermost point of the star.
<i>Reverse</i>	Not known, probably plain
<i>Size</i>	Approximately 50mm x 50mm
<i>Metal</i>	Probably gold and enamel
<i>Ribbon</i>	See above. Probably 32mm, gold with central red stripe (2mm) and narrow dark green or dark blue outer edges (2mm).
<i>Suspension</i>	Loop through the top of the cobra's head
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Probably unnamed
<i>Bars</i>	The photograph shows a top plain suspension bar on the ribbon

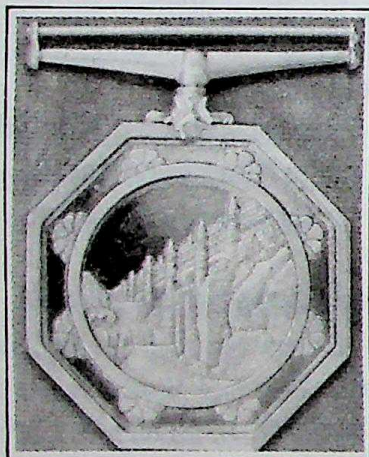
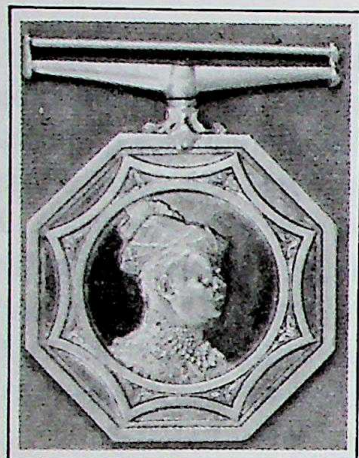
GWALIOR MEDAL

Mention has been made of Scindia's proposal to issue a Scindia Medal featuring the Gwalior Fort and the head of the Maharaja. Though that proposal was not approved he clearly went ahead and issued something remarkably similar to the description. Issued in three classes of gold, silver and copper, it is therefore referred to as Gwalior Gold Medal, Gwalior Silver Medal and Gwalior Copper Medal.

On 14 November 1912 Scindia conferred on Mr H M Bull, MA, Inspector General of Education, the Gwalior Gold Medal. No authority was sought for this, although Mr Bull was not a State subject, but he was subsequently authorised to keep the award ("Indian States: Grant of titles and decorations by Ruling Princes and Chiefs, 1913-1932". IOLR L/P&S/15/47 H76/1920)

"Gwalior's Part in the War" by Mohammad Rafiullah, published in 1920, refers to Gwalior subjects honoured by the Imperial Government for war service and refers to additional awards by the Gwalior Darbar, including the Gwalior Silver Medal. It continues (page 30):

"In addition to the above, all the members of the various units of the Gwalior Imperial Service Troops who returned from active service were awarded cash rewards and decorated by His Highness with the Silver or Copper Medals, according as they deserved."



- Obverse* An octagonal medal with a central portrait of Madho Rao Scindia facing right. Around, a circle and an eight-pointed concave frame
- Reverse* The Gwalior Fort within a circle edged by eight leaf designs
- Size* 39mm
- Metal* Gold, silver and copper
- Ribbon* 31mm saffron
- Suspension* The medal itself is suspended from a straight bar, though the ribbon has an ornate top suspender of a circle within which is the monogram MS (Madho Rao Scindia) with, above, the cobra snake and below, on a scroll, FOR GOD AND GWALIOR.
- Designer* Not known. Possibly Maurya, Gwalior Engraving Centre, Lashkar.
- Naming* All examples seen have been unnamed. The original intention to name may have been dispensed with
- Bars issued* None

2 Gold Medals and 31 Silver Medals were awarded after the First World War by Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia.

Recently a group of Second World War miniature medals came to light which included a miniature of the Gwalior Silver Medal. Until this discovery it had been assumed that the medals had ceased to be issued with the death of Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia. However, according to a recently-traced edition of the Gwalior Army List (Annual), January 1947, and from contacts in Gwalior, it has been confirmed that Maharaja George Jivaji Rao did issue the medal, still with the effigy of Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia, to those who had served in the Second World War, to be worn in addition to their British-issued medals. 4 Gold Medals and 177 Silver Medals were awarded, primarily to officers and JCOs, though one silver medal was awarded to a Naik of 4 Gwalior Infantry who had also been awarded the Military Medal. According to one recipient, the medal was named. He was also issued with a miniature version. No Bronze Medals were given after the Second World War, possibly because the pace of events leading to Independence precluded their distribution.

In addition to the above medals, the Maharaja also conferred a number of titles on military and civil officers of the State. These included:- Mashir-i-Khas Bahadur, Firoz Jung, Shaukat Jung, Rustam-e-Jung, Sumsher-e-Jung, Muntazime-ud-Daula and Mukhtar-ud-Daula. It is not known if any of these titles carried with them badges or insignia.

CHAPTER 22

HYDERABAD

Area

82,698 sq miles

Population

1931 - 14,436,148

By far the largest and most important of all the Indian Princely States, it traced its foundation to Mir Kamar-ud-din Ali Khan, better known by his titles of Chin Killij Khan Fateh Jang, Nizam-ul-Mulk and Asaf Jah. He was the son of Aurangzeb's General, Ghazi-ud-din Khan Firoz Jang, who traced his descent to the first Khalifa. Nizam-ul-Mulk was made Viceroy of the Deccan in 1712, and by 1724 had made himself virtually independent of the Mughal Emperor at Delhi.

Following his death in 1748 the succession to the *masnad* was fiercely contested by his sons, with the third son eventually emerging victorious, thanks partly to French influence. Despite this he was compelled by the East India Company not to permit French settlements in his territory. He sided with the British in their fight against the Mahrattas, culminating in their defeat at Panipat in 1761. In the same year he was deposed by his younger brother, Nizam Ali Khan, and there began a long and important rule of 42 years. In November 1766 a treaty of "perpetual honour, favour, alliance and attachment" was concluded with the British. The following year Nizam Ali Khan allied himself with Haidar Ali against the British but was compelled early in 1768 to come to an agreement with the East India Company. In 1795 he lost territory in an unsuccessful fight with the Mahrattas and in 1790 concluded a treaty of offensive and defensive alliance with the British against Tippu Sultan, a treaty by which he aided the Company in their successful war against Tippu Sultan in 1799.

Nizam Ali's successor, Sikandar Jah, succeeded to the *masnad* in August 1803, just as the Second Mahratta War had started. For his assistance he was granted virtually the whole of Berar and some of Scindia's territories. Nevertheless, his military contingent had not been a success and so was reorganised under British officers, eventually to become the Hyderabad Contingent until its integration into the Indian Army in 1903. Meanwhile, Hyderabad fell into serious financial arrears in paying for the Contingent so that, by 1853, the province of Berar was made over to the British in order to pay for the Contingent.

Successive Nizams enjoyed close relations with the British and, in 1902, their sovereignty over Berar was re-affirmed. The last Nizam, Mir Usman Ali Khan, succeeded his father in August 1911. For his support during the First World War he received a number of distinctions, including the titles of 'His Exalted Highness' as an hereditary distinction; 'Faithful Ally of the British Government'; and 'Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar'. In 1936 his title was amended to 'His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar' in recognition of his sovereignty in the territory of Berar, and the Heir Apparent was granted the title 'His Highness the Prince of Berar'.

For all of its importance it is, perhaps, surprising that Hyderabad had so few orders, decorations and medals of its own. Ancient titles such as Khan, Shamsheer Bahadur and Shams-ul-Umara are recorded as having been awarded as early as the sixteenth century but the majority of modern day awards were not instituted until late in the Second World War, by which time Hyderabad had only a few years left as a Princely State, and even then the actual medals may not have been distributed. Much of what follows is based on an article entitled "Ordensgeschichte", by Dr Klietmann, which appeared in "Recorder for Orders Research, No 12" in the late 1960s. According to this article, which was itself

based on a note provided by the Central Records Office, Hyderabad, "it was the realisation on the part of certain persons of standing in the Hyderabad public life that their important and distinguished services in the advancement of the public interest in the Hyderabad State went unrecognised by the State Government, that prompted the Government to institute three distinct orders in recognition of their meritorious and distinguished services, both during and after the war for which the Executive Council obtained HEH the Nizam's sanction on 19th January 1942". The awards were sanctioned by Farman (Royal warrant) on 11 December 1944. The Fasli era referred to started in 590AD. My own attempts in Hyderabad to gain sight of the Farman or any related documentary evidence proved singularly unsuccessful. Similarly my enquiries suggest that, though the ribbons existed for the first three of the following awards, the medals themselves may not have been struck and distributed. No examples have been found. The descriptions that follow may be academic only.

118

TAMGA-i-HILAL-e-OSMANI MEDAL OF THE CRESCENT OF OSMAN

For acts of courage or self sacrifice rendered in the public interest. The standard for the award was a high one and was not confined to any particular class or sex. Posthumous awards were also possible. A financial allowance was payable with this award. Although the article identified the order as Tamga-i-Hilal-e-Osmani it should, perhaps, be more properly styled Tamga-i-Hilal-e-Usmeni, given the name of the ruler, though the inscription on the reverse translates as Osmani.

<i>Obverse</i>	A lotus leaf design with five leaves. On the obverse a crescent with a Shahi Dastar (Royal Turban) in the centre
<i>Reverse</i>	The inscription <i>Hilal-e-Osmani</i> , the name of the recipient and the Fasli year in which awarded.
<i>Size</i>	Not recorded
<i>Metal</i>	Not known
<i>Ribbon</i>	38mm dark green. In the centre a white stripe (3mm) edged by yellow (1mm)
<i>Suspension</i>	Not known
<i>Designer</i>	Nawab Zain Yar Jung Bahadur, Chief Architect of the State and later Cabinet Member for Public Works Department
<i>Naming</i>	On reverse
<i>Bars issued</i>	Subsequent acts deserving of an award indicated by a bar attached to the ribbon.

119

TAMGA-i-KHUSRAW-e-DECCAN
MEDAL OF THE EMPEROR OF THE DECCAN

For important and useful service in the advancement of the public interest, regardless of occupation, position or sex. Intended to be issued in three classes; 1st (Gold), 2nd (Silver) and 3rd (Bronze), numbers were limited to two at any time for 1st Class, three for 2nd Class and ten for 3rd Class.

<i>Obverse</i>	A circular medal with a circle of lotus leaves with a Shahi Dastar in the centre
<i>Reverse</i>	The inscription <i>Tamga-i-Khusraw-e-Deccan</i> , the name of the recipient and the Fasli year in which awarded
<i>Size</i>	Not recorded
<i>Metal</i>	Gold, silver or bronze
<i>Ribbon</i>	38mm dark blue. In the centre a white stripe (3mm) edged by yellow (1mm)
<i>Suspension</i>	Not known
<i>Designer</i>	Nawab Zain Yar Jung Bahadur, Chief Architect of the State and later Cabinet Member for Public Works Department
<i>Naming</i>	On reverse
<i>Bars issued</i>	Subsequent acts deserving of an award indicated by a bar attached to the ribbon.

120

TAMGA-e-ASAFIA
MEDAL OF THE ASAFIAH

For especially distinguished service by servants of HEH the Nizam's Government in Civil Departments. The award could also be made posthumously. Intended to be issued in three classes, 1st (Gold), 2nd (Silver) and 3rd (Bronze), numbers were limited at any time to three in 1st Class, six in 2nd Class and ten in 3rd Class, though the statutes allowed for extra awards for immediate recognition of valuable service.

<i>Obverse</i>	A six pointed star. In the centre a Shahi Dastar with rays all around.
<i>Reverse</i>	The inscription <i>Tamga-e-Asafia</i> , the name of the recipient and the Fasli year in which awarded.
<i>Size</i>	Not recorded
<i>Metal</i>	Gold, silver or bronze
<i>Ribbon</i>	38mm dark maroon. In the centre a white stripe (3mm) edged by yellow

(1mm)

Suspension Not known*Designer* Nawab Zain Yar Jung Bahadur, Chief Architect of the State and later Cabinet Member for Public Works Department*Naming* On reverse*Bars issued* Subsequent acts deserving of an award indicated by a bar attached to the ribbon.

121

SILVER JUBILEE 1936

Although the actual date of the Jubilee was August 1936, the death of King George V caused the official observance to be postponed until 13 February 1937. Two medals were issued, one for military personnel and one for civilians.

121a

MILITARY

Obverse The Arabic inscription *Asif Jaah Nizam-ul-Mulk* (being the seal of the Nizam) with the Hegira year date 1354 (1935-36) split either side - 13 to the left, 54 to the right. An outer ring contains a laurel wreath bound crosswise at the four points.

Reverse A walled city with shrubs in the foreground

Size 32mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon 34mm. A central golden yellow band (22mm) edged by dark green/white/dark green (each 2mm). Other width variations are known.

Suspension Wire eye and ring

Designer Not known

Naming Some unnamed, others impressed in crude capitals

Bars issued None



I have seen reference to 750 medals being awarded to officers and soldiers but cannot confirm this figure. A miniature ribbon is known to exist as part of a group but instead of a miniature medal the ribbon supports a 1 Anna piece with ring suspender soldered to the top.

121b

CIVIL

Issued in silver to nobles, Jagirdars, Mansabdars (recipients of special hereditary allowances) and social workers; and in bronze to Class IV employees.



<i>Obverse</i>	A front view of Jubilee Hall with Hegira date 1355 (1936-37 below).
<i>Reverse</i>	As for the obverse of the Military medal
<i>Size</i>	32.5mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver or dark bronze
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm dark green with a 2mm yellow stripe 5.5mm from each edge. Also seen as 30mm with 2.5mm yellow stripe 3mm from each edge.
<i>Suspension</i>	Wire eye and ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

I have seen a reference to 45 silver medals and 600 bronze but cannot confirm these figures. Indeed, only 45 of the silver variety seems a particularly low number for such a medal.

122

POLICE MEDAL

Issued in two classes, for Gallantry or for Long and Meritorious Service, the medal is known by its two ribbons only. No actual examples have been located, nor is it known how many were issued.

122a GALLANTRY

32mm; dark green with a central yellow stripe (2mm) and a yellow stripe at either edge (3mm)

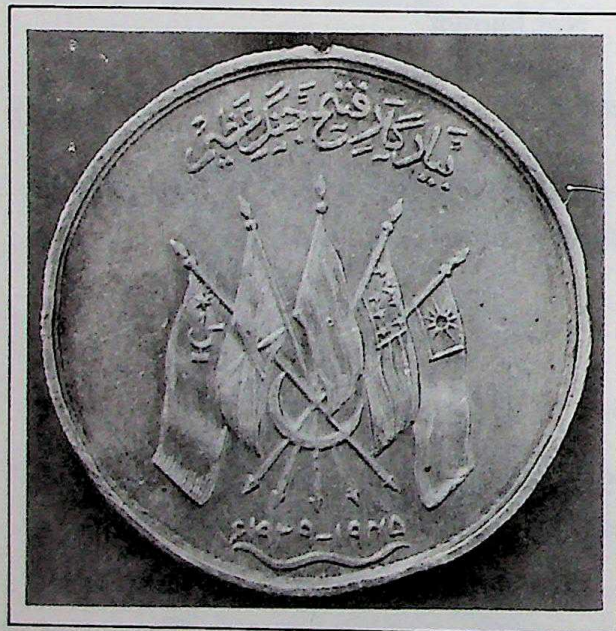
122b MERITORIOUS SERVICE

As for Gallantry but without the central yellow stripe

123

WAR MEDAL 1945

Issued in connection with the victory over Japan and the end of the war, and the part played by some units of the Hyderabad Army. Also awarded to those who had rendered prominent service in the Defence Councils and War Committees.



Obverse The Shahi Dastar (Royal turban) with VICTORY 1945 on two lines below, all within an open wreath of two laurel branches crossed below.

Reverse Five crossed flags (USSR, UK, Hyderabad, USA and China). Superimposed over the crossed staffs of the flags a Crescent tilted to the left. Above the Urdu inscription *ba-yadgar fateh jang azeem* (In the memory of Great War Victory) and below the numerals 1939-1945.

Size 35mm

Metal Silver or silver coloured metal

Ribbon There is some confusion about this. The generally accepted version is 34mm; 6mm yellow/2.5mm white/3mm dark red/2.5mm white/6mm yellow /2.5mm white/3mm dark red/2.5mm white/6mm yellow. Width variations are known.

A second version has also been found which is supposed to be for this medal. 32mm; A red central stripe (8mm), two narrow white stripes set 1mm inside. On either side of the red, 6mm yellow, 1mm each of dark green/white/red/white and 2mm pale green.

Suspension Wire loop

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed. The medal has a milled edge

Bars issued None

3200 medals were struck and distributed in accordance with Firman-e-Mubarak dated 7th Shaban 1365 (7 July 1946). A miniature ribbon is known to exist as part of a group but instead of a miniature medal the ribbon supports a silver 4 Annas piece with a ring suspender soldered to the top.

VICTORY IN TUNIS 7 MAY 1942

Issued to commemorate a World War II victory, though why this should be so is uncertain since no Hyderabad troops participated or were in the theatre at the time.



Obverse Identical in design to many of the Hyderabad minted coins with the Charminar, the triumphal arch built in 1591 by Mohammed Quli Qutab Shah.

Reverse An inscription in Persian, *Yadgar-e-Fateh-e-Toonisiya* (In the memory of the Victory in Tunisia) 17th Tiir 1352 Fasli (corresponding with 7 May 1942 A.D.)

Size 25mm

Metal Both silver and bronze are known

Ribbon One source gives 33mm lemon yellow but this has not been confirmed

Suspension Wire and eye ring

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed - milled edge

Bars issued Not known - probably none



125

UNIDENTIFIED

One source has referred to a breast star for the **ROYAL FAMILY ORDER OF ASAF JAH**, a ten pointed star with an inscription within a centre circle. No other reference to this award has been found and it has not been possible to ascertain or identify any details of it.

126

UNIDENTIFIED

A picture appeared in the Navy and Army Illustrated of 10 July 1896 showing officers of the Household Troops of the Nizam, including Amir Shams-ul-Umara, i.e., the head of the Paigah nobles. He was wearing a decoration around his neck suspended from a dark coloured ribbon. The decoration consisted of three arms of a Maltese cross around a central shield, the top arm having been replaced by the lion device of Hyderabad. Within the central shield, a head facing left. No other details are known and the decoration remains unidentified.

127

UNIDENTIFIED

Known only by a ribbon, it is reputed to be a Meritorious Service Medal (possibly military). 31mm; 19mm pale green centre with two narrow yellow stripes towards the centre and two dark green stripes towards the edges. On either side of the pale green centre, 1mm red, 3mm orange and 2mm dark green.

128

UNIDENTIFIED

Known only by a ribbon, 31mm; alternate equal stripes of yellow/green/yellow/green/yellow/green/yellow.

129

UNIDENTIFIED

Known only by a ribbon, 32mm; pale yellow/green with 3mm dark green edges. In the centre a series of narrow stripes, each 1mm, yellow/green/white/red/white/green/white/red/white/green/yellow.

CHAPTER 23

INDORE

Area
9519 sq miles

Population
1,500,000

The history of Indore as a separate state dates from the first half of the eighteenth century. The founder of the House was Malhar Rao, who was born in 1694, the son of a shepherd, in the village of Hol or Hal on the Nira River, Deccan, hence Holkar, 'kar' signifying inhabitant of. As a cavalry soldier under the Peshwa he soon distinguished himself and rose rapidly through the upper ranks, earning rewards and huge tracts of lands stretching from the Deccan to the Ganges. In 1732 he was the principal general of the Peshwa in the defeat of the Mughal Viceroy's army at Malwa, for which he was assigned Indore for the support of his troops. At the battle of Panipat in 1761 he shared with Scindia the command of the right wing of the Mahratta army. He died in 1766 and was succeeded by his grandson, Male Rao, who died nine months later without issue. He in turn was succeeded by his mother, Ahilya Bai, who then ruled for thirty years, assisted by her Commander in Chief, Tukoji Rao. On her death in 1795 she was succeeded by Tukoji Rao who was followed by his illegitimate son, Yaswant Rao.

Following his defeat by Scindia, Yaswant Rao employed Europeans to reorganise his army as a result of which, in 1802, he defeated the combined forces of Scindia and the Peshwa at Poona. Initially, during the Mahratta War of 1803, Yaswant Rao held himself aloof of the conflict but finally joined forces against the British. He surrendered to Lord Lake in December 1805 as a result of which a treaty of peace and amity was concluded with the British, a treaty which was soon to be broken. Following the Third Anglo-Mahratta War of 1817-18, the power of the Mahrattas was finally broken. By the defeat of the Indore army at Maheidpoor, he was forced to surrender large tracts of his territory. Sir John Malcolm, who was entrusted with settling the region, ensured that the State was enclosed within carefully demarcated limits.

Yaswant Rao died in 1811 and the next thirty years saw a number of succession disputes, culminating in the British Government taking over the succession responsibility in 1843. During the 1857 Mutiny a number of Indore troops rose against the British, though Tukoji Rao II remained loyal to the British. He lived until 1886 when he was succeeded by Shivaji Rao, who ruled until 1903 when he was forced to abdicate (a small question of a wrestling match in which he beat up the British Resident!). He was succeeded by Tukoji Rao III but he too was forced to abdicate in 1926 following an incident in which a member of his police department shot and killed a Bombay businessman who had formed a relationship with the Maharaja's former mistress. Tukoji Rao was not directly implicated, but the British forced him to step down. He in turn was succeeded by Yeshwant Rao, then a minor, on 26 February 1926. The Holkar family had little cause to be overly fond of the British!

In March 1914 The Statesman newspaper carried a report that Holkar (Tukoji Rao III) had ordered from Spink and Son, London, a complete set of jewels and insignia of a new order he was founding, to correspond with the (British) Royal Victorian Order and to be awarded exclusively for personal services to the Maharaja. A letter from Spinks dated February 1914 referred to the despatch

of the diamond insignia of the **HOLKAR ORDER OF MERIT** for the Maharaja, a similar set for his wife, and a gold, silver and enamel badge and star of the first class of the order, again for the Maharaja. The British Foreign Office raised an objection to the creation of this order. Although some surviving correspondence suggests that the Resident at Indore persuaded Holkar to drop the idea of the order, it is clear from other correspondence that he was not, in fact, successful.

In November 1920 the Government of Indore finally replied to the British Government's enquiries of 1914, stating that Holkar was contemplating the founding of an order, to be styled **THE ORDER OF THE AHILYA HOLKAR SALTANAT**. The letter coincided with the appearance of the Supplement to the Holkar Sirkar Gazette, No 8, dated 22 November 1920, published 25 November 1920, announcing the creation of **THE ORDER OF THE AHILYA HOLKAR SALTANAT**, to consist of the ruler and three classes:

Yameen - us - Saltanat

Sotoon - us - Saltanat

Mashir - us - Saltanat

Numbers of recipients would be limited to five for the first class, ten for the second and twenty for the third. The order would rank as the highest of all titles and honours and all recipients would, as a matter of course, enjoy the honours of *Ghashya* and *Dohri Tazim*.

The Central India Agency wrote to the Chief Minister of Indore State in December 1920 stating that Holkar could not found an **ORDER OF THE AHILYA HOLKAR SALTANAT** or any other order based on British models. They also objected to the granting by Holkar of certain titles of nobility, such as Rao Raja, Nawab, Maharao and Maharaj, and requested the immediate cessation of this practise. They allowed that certain of the lower class Darbar medals announced in the Gazette could be worn in the State at receptions attended by the King, Viceroy or Agent, and outside the State by those in immediate attendance on the Maharaja.

On 9 February 1938 one of Lord Linlithgow's staff minuted the Viceroy about the star of an order that Yeshwant Rao had worn at dinner in the Viceroy's house the previous evening. It was described as being "not unlike the GCIE to look at". (It should be remembered that the GCIE Star had eight points while the description of this one mentions seven points). The Viceroy directed that the matter be raised and the Prime Minister of Indore replied that it was the insignia of the **ORDER OF AHILYA HOLKAR SALATANAT** which "had been instituted by His Highness the ex-Maharaja (Tukoji Rao III) in 1920, but which has not been conferred on anyone since inception".² The Viceroy expressed the hope that Holkar would discontinue the practice of wearing the order. It is at this point that the surviving official correspondence traced so far comes to an end, though one other reference has been found to the order having been conferred, in 1943, on Maharaja Vikramsinharao of Dewas Senior who, at the request of Holkar and with the encouragement of the Viceroy, officiated for Holkar during the latter's extended absence in America for medical treatment.³



1 - Order of Ranjit Singh



6 - Imtiaz-i-Satlej



7 - Imtiaz-i-Harouna

1st Issue



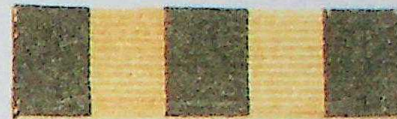
2nd Issue



8 - Imtiaz-i-Abbasia



9 - Imtiaz Huzoori



10 - Special Badge for Distinguished Service - 1st Issue



10 - Special Badge for Distinguished Service - 2nd Issue



11 - Shujaat Medal



12 - Istidad-i-Harbiya



13 - Campaign Medals 1845 & 1880



14 - Great War Star 1914-18
2nd Issue



15 - North West Frontier 1914-19



16 - Kot Sabzal Campaign 1930-31



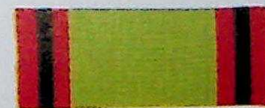
17 - Overseas Service 1939-45



18 - Victory Star 1939-45



19 - Military General Service Medal
1st Issue



2nd Issue



19 - Military General Service
3rd Issue



20 - Civil General Service Medal
1st Issue



2nd Issue



21 - Army Long Service



22 - Military Long Service



23 - Civil Long Service
1st Issue



2nd Issue



24 - Long Service and Good Conduct 1860



25 - Long Service and Good Conduct 1904



26 - Army Good Service



27 - Civil Good Conduct
1st Issue



2nd Issue



28 - Army Good Conduct
1st Issue



2nd Issue



29 - Jan-i-Nisari

Silver



Bronze



30 - Good Service Medal



31 - Police Medal



32 - Birth of Heir
Apparent 1880



33 - GCSI Commemorative
Medal



34 - State Medal 1885



35 - State Medal 1904



36 - Royal Household Medal



37 - Birth of Heir
Apparent 1904



37 - alternative



38 - Installation Medal
1904 - 2nd Issue



39 - Installation Medal
1924



40 - Birth of Heir
Apparent 1924



41 - Silver Jubilee 1931



42 - British-Bahawalpur Alliance Centenary
1833-1933 1st Issue



2nd Issue



43 - Hajj Pilgrimage 1935
1st Issue



43 - 2nd Issue



44 - Independence Medal
1947



45 - Bahawalpur-Pakistan
Alliance 1947



46 - Golden Jubilee 1955/6

Baroda



50, 51, 52 - Order of Udayaditya



56 - Rajyaratna



56 - alternative



57 - Dnyan Bhaskar Order



58 - Meritorious Service Medal (Military)
alternative



60 - Maharaja's Police
Medal



61 - Police Long Service



61 - alternative



62 - Golden Jubilee 1926



63 - Diamond Jubilee
1935

Bharatpur



68 - Girraj Order (1st Class)



68 - Girraj Order (2nd Class)



68 - (3rd Class) & 270 -
Distinguished Service Medal



69 - Brijendra Order

Bhopal



73 - Sultanania Medals
(Gold & Silver)



74 - Civil Defence
(Bronze) 2nd Issue



75 - 2nd Issue



82 - Order of Star of Honour
1st Issue



85 - Household Medal
- Sadul Singh



89 - Long and Distinguished
Service



92 - Commendable Conduct



96 - Accession Medal 1943
1st Issue



100 - Accession Medal 1913

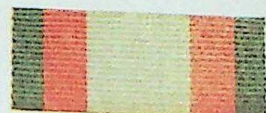
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74 - Civil Defence Medal (Silver)
1st Issue



2nd Issue



76 - Hamida Medals
(Gold & Silver)



77 - Hamida Stars
(Silver & Bronze)



74 - Civil Defence
(Bronze) 1st Issue



78a - Police Medal for
Gallantry (1st Issue)



81 - Order of Sadul Star
of Bikan



80 - Order of Vikram
Star



83 - Legion of Merit



84 - Household Medal
- Ganga Singh



2nd Issue



86 - Public Service Medal



87 - Civil Service Medal



88 - Badge of Valour



90 - Medal For Gallantry



91a - Long Service (Class I)



91b - Long Service
(Class II)



93 - Champion Shot



94 - Silver Jubilee 1912



95 - Golden Jubilee 1937

Bundi



97 - Accession Medal
1927 or 1945

Cooch Behar

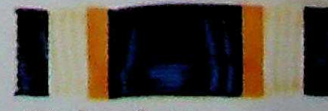


99 - Durbar Medal 1911

Datia



103 - Household Medal



104 - State Order



2nd Issue



102 - Silver Jubilee 1947

Dewas Senior



109 - Sena Ram Sahstri

Dhar



111 - Anand Medal

Dhrangadhra



112 - Order of Jhalavada



113 - Coronation 1942



114 - Accession to India, 1947

Faridkot



115 - State Medal

Gwalior



116 - Scindia Gold Medal



117 - Gwalior Medal

Hyderabad



118 - Tamga-i-Hital-i-Osmani



119 - Tamga-i-Khusraw-e-Deccan



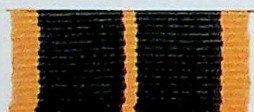
120 - Tamga-e-Asafia



121a - Silver Jubilee 1936 (Military)



121b - Silver Jubilee 1936 (Civil)



122a - Police Medal for Gallantry



122b - Police Medal for Meritorious Service



123 - War Medal 1945



123 - alternative



127 - Unidentified (Hyderabad)



128 - Unidentified (Hyderabad)



129 - Unidentified (Hyderabad)

Indore



131 - Sotoon-us-Saltanat



132 - Mashir-us-Saltanat



133 - Yameen-us-Saltanat



134 - Wazir-ud-Dowalah



135 - Mashir-ud-Dowalah



136 - Aitmad-ud-Dowalah



137 - Dewan-i-Khas Bahadur



138 - Musahib-i-Khas Bahadur



139 - Muntazim-i-Khas Bahadur



140 - Mashir Bahadur



141 - Muntazim Bahadur



142 - Rai Ratan



143 - Muzzafar-ul-Mulk Bahadur



144 - Muzzafar-ul-Jung Bahadur



145 - Diler Jung Bahadur



146 - Khusro Jung



147 - Shamsher Jung



148 - Diler Jung



149 - Razm Bahadur



150 - Jung Bahadur



151 - Rajya Ratna



152 - Rajya Bhushan



153 - Wafadar-i-Dowlat

Jaipur



154 - Vidya Sagar



155 - Pandit Ratna



160 - Aditya Mandal



161 - Order of Merit



162 - Coronation Medal 1922



163 - Silver Jubilee 1947



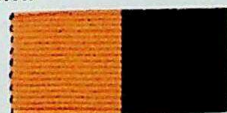
168 - Hunza Nagar Badge 1891

Jammu & Kashmir



169 - Jummoo and Kashmir Medal 1895

Jind



173 - Golden Jubilee 1937



174 - Diamond Jubilee 1947



175 - Coronation Medal 1948

Jodhpur



178 - Police Medal for Bravery



179 - Police Medal for Meritorious Service



182 - Coronation Medal 1947



2180/183 - War Medal 1919

Kapurthala

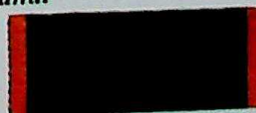


185 - Nishan-i-Ifttekhar
(+ 186a, 187)



186b - Distinguished and
Long Service Medal

Mandi



192 - State Order



193 - Installation Medal
1913

Mysore

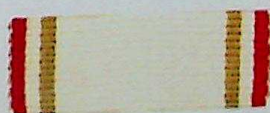


198 - Maharaja's
Police Medal

Nawanagar



203 - Order of Merit



194 - Silver Jubilee 1938



195 - Meritorious Service

Patiala



205 - Family Order



206 - Order of Krishna



207 - Order of Holy Saint



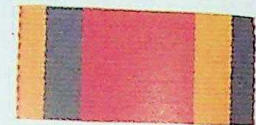
208 - Order of Merit



209 - Medal for Bravery



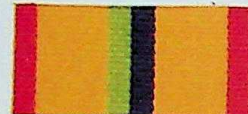
210/211 - Meritorious Service Medal



212 - General Service - Military



213 - Great War Medal 1914-18



214 - Afghanistan Medal 1919



215 - Punjab Medal 1919



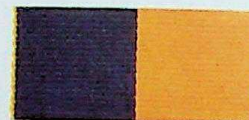
216 - Military Long Service



217 - Military /221 Civil Long Service



218/219 - Police Medal



220 - Civil Long Service



222/223 - Household Medal



224 - Coronation Medal 1900



225 - Assumption of Full Powers 1910



226 - Badshahi Mela



227 - Silver Jubilee 1925



228 - Yuvraj Marriage 1933



229 - Coronation Medal 1938

Porbandar



231 - Unidentified (Porbandar)

Rampur



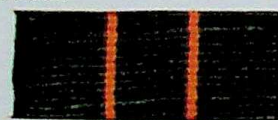
233 - Hamidiya Medal

Ratlam



235 - Barr Medal

Sachin



237 - Nishan-i-Yakut Zaman



238 - Nishan-i-Hadani

Tonk



239 - Nishan-i-Sultan Manzir



243 - ? Accession to India 1948

Travancore



247 - Unidentified (Travancore)

Tripura



248 - War Medal 1939-45

Udaipur (Mewar)





249 - Maharana Pratap Palak



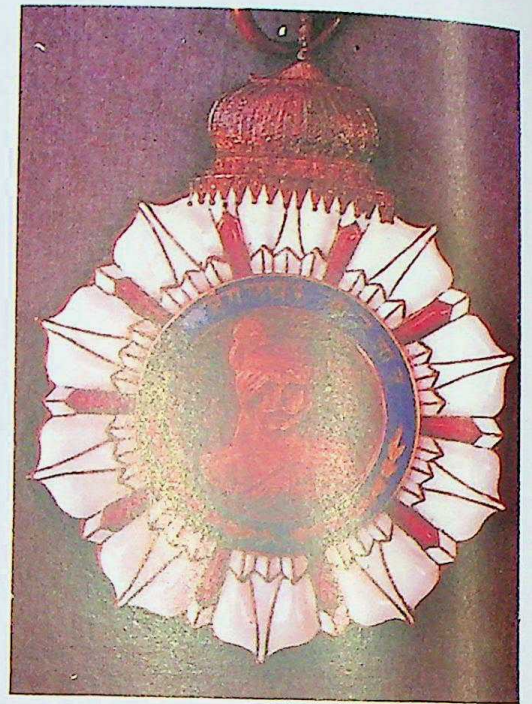
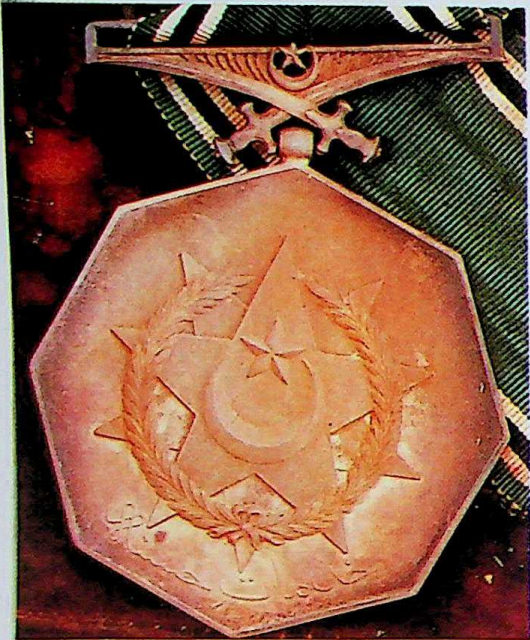
250 - Maharana Bhupal Palak



251 - Amatya Shresht

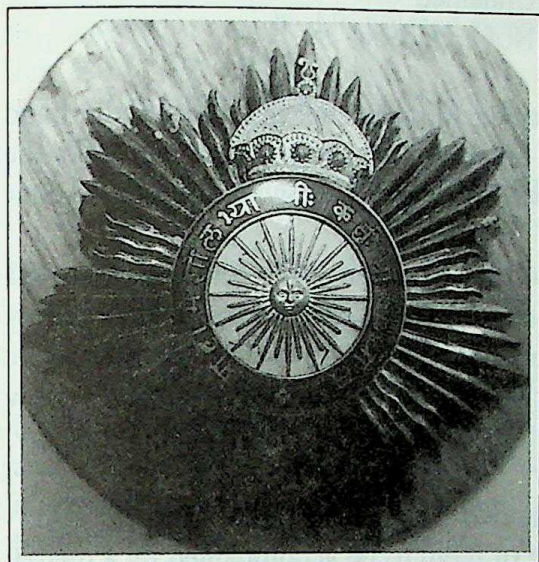


281 - Unidentified
(?Udaipur)



130

THE ORDER OF THE AHILYA HOLKAR SALTANAT
also unofficially referred to as
THE HOLKAR ORDER OF MERIT

**Star***Obverse*

A seven pointed star. In the white enamelled centre the sun in splendour (in gilt) surrounded by a red enamelled band with, in gilt lettering, the Sanskrit inscription *Prahoṇaysho Labhya Shri Kartay Prarabhat* (Do your best and trust in Providence). The State Umbrella in gilt with red stones on the top ray of the star.

Reverse

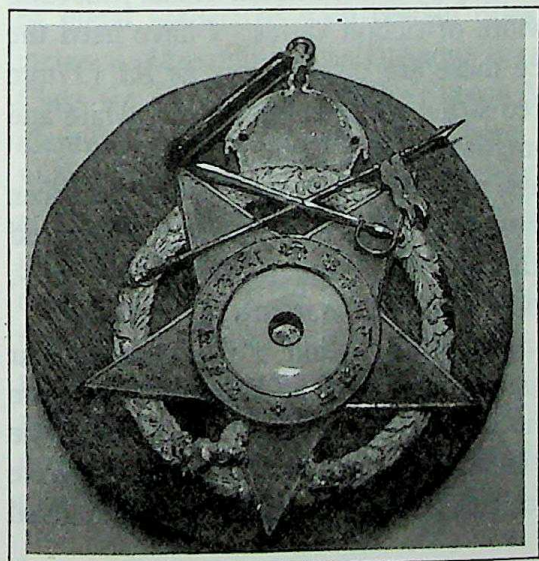
Plain

Size

84mm

Metal

Gilt, silver & enamel

Neck Badge*Obverse*

A five pointed star. In the centre the same device as for the breast star. The star rests on a complete open wreath, i.e. hollows between the star rays, with crossed lance and sword at the top. Either side of the bottom point of the star a rearing horse (left) and sacred bull (*Nandi*) couchant (right). The whole surmounted by the State umbrella. The only example seen was badly damaged but from what remains, and from a photograph of Maharaja Vikramsinharao of Dewas Senior (later Chhatrapati Shahji II of Kolhapur)⁴, the star and wreath, including the band with inscription, were in silver while the centre of the star was in white enamel and the umbrella, missing from the example seen, was probably in gilt.

Reverse

Plain

Size

79mm x 100mm

Metal

Gilt, silver and enamel

Ribbon

The Minute to the Viceroy referred to above merely mentioned a ribbon of

yellow/red/yellow/red/yellow. See below for further details.

Suspension Loop at top of State umbrella

Designer Spinks, London

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Not applicable

A second Breast Star is known, identical to the one described above except that the circular band and inscription are all in silver rather than red enamel with gilt lettering, and the gilt umbrella lacks the red stones. It is likely that the one described in detail above was for First Class while the second Star was one of the lesser titles.

According to ribbon collectors there was a different ribbon for **Yameen - us - Saltanat** (see 133 for the pattern); 9cms. central maroon/dark red (28mm). On either side white (5mm), golden yellow (26mm); **Sotoon - us - Saltanat (131)**; 5cms. central golden yellow (16mm). On either side white (2mm), maroon/dark red (15mm); and **Mashir - us - Saltanat (132)**; 38mm. stripes of golden yellow (gy), maroon/dark red (m/dr), white (w) in the following pattern: gy, m/dr, gy, w, m/dr, gy, m/dr, w, gy, m/dr, gy (each 3.45mm).

At the same time as announcing the founding of the above order, the State Gazette also announced that a series of titles would be conferred, twenty-five of them to be accompanied by a medal. Unfortunately the Gazette entry concluded with the statement that "Orders regarding the insignia of the 'Order of the Ahilya Holkar Saltanat' inscriptions on medals and badges will follow" ¹ These have not been traced.

Ribbon collectors refer to all medals originally being suspended from one of two ribbons, identical in design but of different width. This is borne out by the display in the Sheesh Mahal Museum, Patiala, though opinion as to which medal went with which width of ribbon varies. I have used the Sheesh Mahal definition for ribbons, and for ease of reference these are given below as **R1** (37mm wide) and **R2** (32mm wide). Both had a central maroon/dark red stripe with, on either side, white and golden yellow. **R1**: 8mm, 5.5mm, 9mm, 5.5mm, 8mm; **R2**: 6mm, 6mm, 8mm, 6mm, 6mm (133).

The ribbons were apparently subsequently changed, though no official reference to this has been found, and a number of ribbon collectors also have a series of these later ribbons. The generally agreed titles in such ribbon collections, while not matching exactly those given in the 1920 Gazette entry, nevertheless come close to them. These ribbons are described individually in the following entries.

All the medals follow a similar design, the common denominator being a five pointed star containing, in its centre, a sun in full splendour around which is a border with the Sanskrit inscription *Prahoṇaysho Labhya Shri Kartay Prarabhat* (Do your best and trust in Providence). Apart from the differences in metal (gold, silver or bronze) which are clearly identified in the Holkar Sirkar Gazette entry of 25 November 1920, other differences are not so easy to categorise. They can be summarised as:

1.
 - a. Surmounted by *Chhatri* (State umbrella).
 - b. No *Chhatri*
2.
 - a. Star rests on a complete wreath with:
 - (i) solid ground between the star rays
 - (ii) hollows between the star rays

- b. Top sector only contains the wreath with:
 - (i) solid ground between the star rays
 - (ii) hollows between the star rays
- 3.
 - a. Crossed sword and lance beneath the umbrella
 - b. No crossed sword and lance
- 4. Bottom point of star contains:
 - a. A sacred bull (*Nandi*) couchant
 - b. A horse rearing (the symbol of war)
 - c. An open book
 - d. Scales of Justice
 - e. No emblem

(Note: The State arms consist of the *Khanda* (broad sword) and lance salterwise over a field of poppy and wheat in which the sacred bull couchant and horse rearing are depicted. A sun in splendour under a *Chhatra* (royal umbrella) forms the crest). All the medals are the same size; 53mm wide between the bottom two star points and 45mm wide across the outer edges of the wreath. The reverse of each medal is plain. All are thought to have been manufactured by Spink and Son of London. None of the examples seen was named, though the majority were museum specimens and may never have been issued. As far as it has been possible to determine, no bars were issued. As mentioned earlier, the official descriptions of the medals against title have not been traced. Those held in the Sheesh Mahal Museum all carry descriptive labels but it is clear that a number of these are wrong because of the type of metal associated with certain titles as noted in the Gazette entry of 25 November 1920. (For instance, Musahib-i-Khas Bahadur is referred to in the State Gazette as a Class II Silver medal of 1st Class for Civil Work, yet the Sheesh Mahal Museum had a gold medal with crossed sword and lance identified as this designation. There were other examples.) I have therefore chosen to ignore the Sheesh Mahal designations and attempt to relate the photographs more closely with the Gazette entries and announcements of awards in the annual Administration Reports, though I have only been able to trace copies for 1921, 1923, 1930, 1932, 1934, 1935 and 1936. Since I have also found more types of design than the 1920 list of awards accounts for, I readily admit it is an imprecise science and what follows is a best estimate based on the limited information available so far and a few indistinct photographs. Despite efforts to clarify the situation in Indore I have been forced to make a number of assumptions. For instance, a solid background behind the star probably represents a higher award than does an open background. Leaving aside the open book and scales of justice emblems, I have been unable adequately to determine the priority of the horse, bull or plain star point.

FOR CIVIL WORK

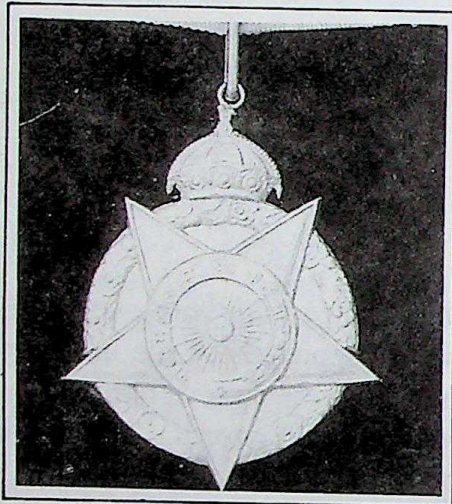
(The following two identifications may prove to be interchangeable)

134

WAZIR-ud-DOWALAH

Class I Gold Medal

Possible photograph, based on solid ground behind wreath, though uncertain about lack of emblem on star. Only two awards have been traced, in both cases to the Prime Minister of the day [1923 and 1930]



Obverse Full wreath, solid ground, State umbrella, no sword and lance, no emblem on star

Ribbon Originally R2 but worn around neck. 2nd design 32mm golden yellow with 3mm blue and 3mm white set 3mm from each edge

Suspension Ring through top of umbrella

135

MASHIR-ud-DOWALAH

Class I Gold Medal

Possible photograph, based on solid ground behind wreath, though uncertain about horse emblem on star. Only one award has been traced, to a Chief Minister [1921]



Obverse Full wreath, solid ground, State umbrella, no sword and lance, rearing horse on star

Ribbon Originally R2 but worn around neck. 2nd design 32mm alternate stripes of golden yellow (2mm), white (1.5mm), and sky blue (5mm)

Suspension Ring through top of umbrella

136

AITMAD-ud-DOWALAH

Class I Gold Medal

Possible photograph, based on open ground behind wreath. Given that this, with the above two, are the only three photographs of gold medals considered to fit this category, the bull on the star may be interpreted as being of a lower precedence than the horse. Four awards have been traced, two to lawyers and two to senior political figures (Prime Minister [1923] and Deputy Prime Minister [1930]).

Obverse Full wreath, solid ground, State



- Ribbon* umbrella, no sword and lance, Scales of Justice on star
Originally R2 but worn around neck.
2nd design 32mm royal blue with a yellow stripe (1.5mm) edged by white (2mm), starting 5mm from each edge.
- Suspension* Ring through top of umbrella

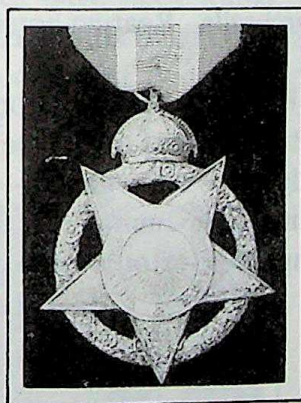
None of the following three silver medals has a solid ground behind the wreath and so, in view of the above Gold Medal designations, I have used the symbol on the star to determine precedence. They may prove to be interchangeable.

137

DEWAN-i-KHAS BAHADUR

Class II Silver Medal of the 1st Class

Possible photograph, based on no emblem on star. Given to those of Ministerial rank, especially those connected with finance or revenue. Seven awards have been traced, including two already holding lower grades of the same set of awards.



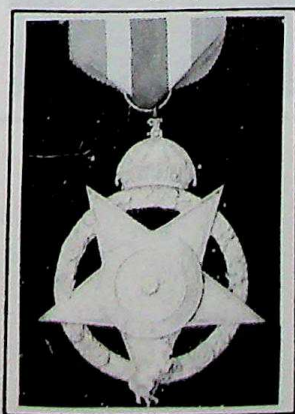
- Obverse* Full wreath, hollow ground, State umbrella, no sword and lance. Nothing on star.
- Ribbon* Originally R1. 2nd design 31mm, two broad stripes of golden yellow (8mm) divided by three bands of white/blue /white (1.5mm/2mm/1.5mm)
- Suspension* Ring through top of umbrella

138

MUSAHIB-i-KHAS BAHADUR

Class II Silver Medal of the 1st Class

Possible photograph, based on horse emblem on star. Five traced.



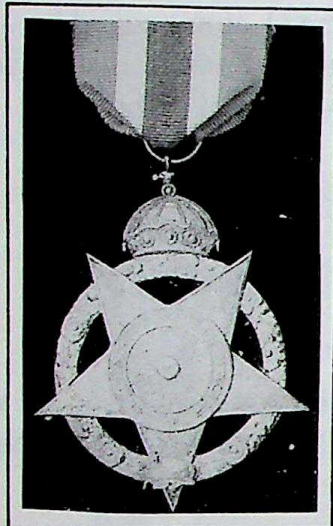
- Obverse* Full wreath, hollow ground, State umbrella, no sword and lance.
Rearing horse on star.
- Ribbon* Originally R1. 2nd design 32mm.
Central stripe royal blue (2mm) edged by white, golden yellow, royal blue (each 5mm)
- Suspension* Ring through top of umbrella

139

MUNTAZIM-i-KHAS BAHADUR

Class II Silver Medal of the 1st Class

Possible photograph, based on bull emblem on star. Sixteen awards traced, principally to senior officials in various areas of local government.



Obverse Full wreath, hollow ground, State umbrella, no sword and lance. Seated bull on star.

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design 31mm alternate stripes of royal blue, white, golden yellow (each 2mm) repeated five times.

Suspension Ring through top of umbrella

140

MASHIR BAHADUR

Class III Silver Medal of the 2nd Class

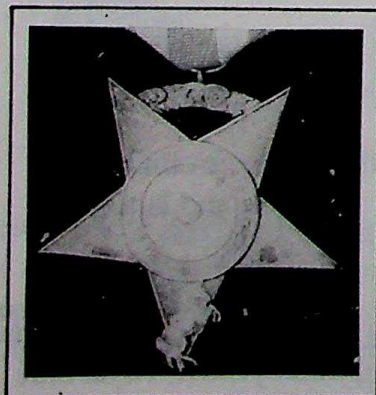
Two photographs are shown, both with the horse emblem but one with solid ground and one with open ground behind the wreath. As with Rai Ratan (see following page) the discovery of two versions of this medal have identified more types than there are titles in the Gazette.



Obverse Top sector wreath with solid ground. No State umbrella. Rearing horse on star.

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design. 31mm. Broad central stripe of royal blue (19mm) edged by white/golden yellow/white (each 2mm)

Suspension Ring through top sector wreath

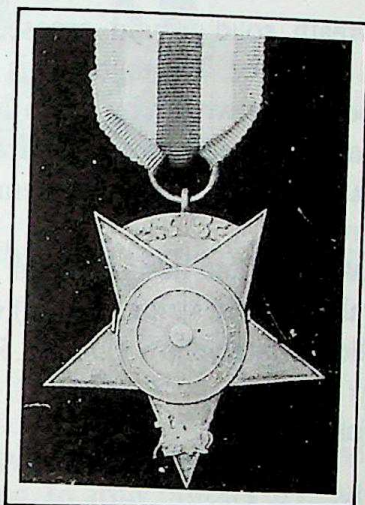


141

MUNTAZIM BAHADUR

Class III Silver Medal of the 2nd Class

Possible photograph based on solid ground and bull emblem. Thirty six awards traced to accountants, teachers, household officers, pensioners. The discovery of the two types of horse emblem medal and the two types of medal without emblem suggests there may have been an "open ground" bull medal as well, though none has been traced.



Obverse Top sector wreath with solid ground. No State umbrella. Seated bull on star.

Ribbon Originally R2. 2nd design 32mm. Central royal blue stripe (4mm) edged by white (2.5mm), blue (2mm), white (2.5mm) with outer golden yellow edges (7mm)

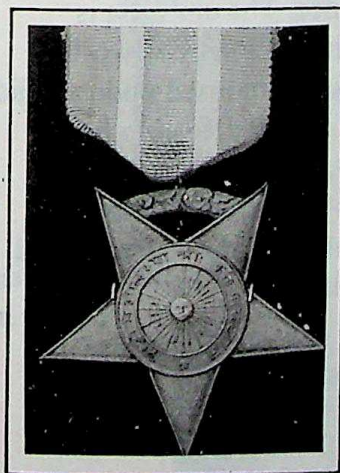
Suspension Ring through top sector wreath

142

RAI RATAN

Class IV Bronze Medal

Only one bronze medal is listed in this category of award, but as with Mashir Bahadur, two possible examples have been found, one with solid ground behind the wreath and one with open ground. Eighteen awards traced, primarily to lower ranking local government officers. As with Mashir Bahadur, the discovery of two versions of this medal have identified more types than there are titles in the Gazette.



Obverse Top sector wreath. One example has solid ground between the star rays, the other has open ground. No umbrella, sword and lance, or emblem

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design 30mm divided into three equal stripes of royal blue white and golden yellow.

Suspension Ring through top sector wreath

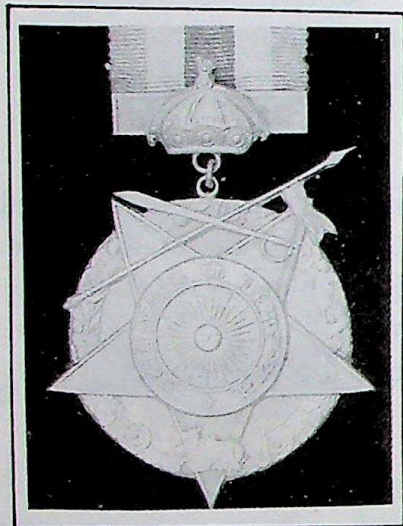
FOR MILITARY SERVICE

143

MUZAFFAR-ul-MULK BAHADUR

Class I Gold

Possible photograph, based on solid ground behind wreath, though unlike the Civil version, this has the bull emblem on the star. No awards have been traced.



Obverse Full wreath, solid ground, crossed sword and lance. The umbrella is attached to the wreath by a two-link chain and is superimposed upon a solid gold suspension bar. Bull emblem on star.

Ribbon Originally R2. 2nd design 30mm. Central broad red stripe (17mm) edged by yellow/white/yellow (2mm/2.5mm /2mm)

Suspension Gold bar

144

MUZAFFAR-ul-JUNG BAHADUR

Class I Gold

Possible photograph, based on open ground behind wreath and horse emblem on star. No awards have been traced.



Obverse Full wreath, open ground, crossed sword and lance. The umbrella is attached to the wreath by a two-link chain and is superimposed upon a solid gold suspension bar. Rearing horse emblem on star.

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design 30mm, divided into three equal stripes of red, white and yellow.

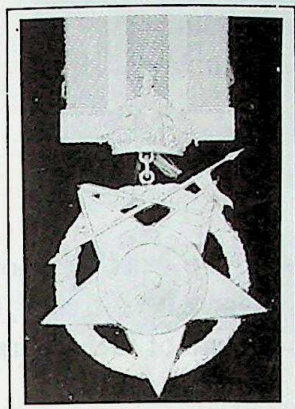
Suspension Gold bar

145

DILER-JUNG BAHADUR

Class I Gold

Possible photograph, based on open ground behind wreath, though unlike the Civil version this has no emblem on the star. Two awards have been traced, to the Commissioner of Police [1921] and the Commander in Chief of the army [1930].



Obverse Full wreath, open ground, crossed sword and lance. The umbrella is attached to the wreath by a two-link chain and is superimposed upon a solid gold suspension bar. No emblem on star.

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design. 30mm. Red/yellow/white/red white/yellow/red; the red and yellow being 4mm, the white 5mm.

Suspension Gold bar

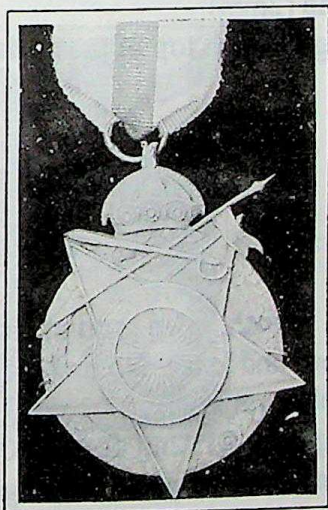
As with the Civil versions, the above may prove to be interchangeable

146

KHUSRO JUNG

Class II, Silver

Possible photograph, based on solid ground behind wreath, no emblem on star. Three awards have been traced, to army officers of Lieutenant Colonel rank.



Obverse Full wreath, solid ground, crossed sword and lance, State umbrella. No emblem on star.

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design 32mm. Central yellow stripe 11mm edged by white/red/white/red/white/red, the white stripes 2mm and the red stripes 1.5mm.

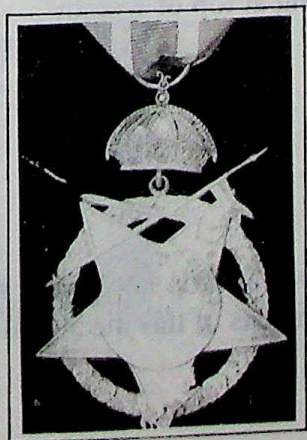
Suspension Ring through top of umbrella

147

SHAMSHER JUNG

Class II Silver

Possible photograph, based on open ground behind wreath, horse emblem on star. No awards have been traced.



Obverse Full wreath, open ground, crossed sword and lance. The umbrella is attached to the wreath by a two-link chain with ring suspender at top of umbrella. Rearing horse emblem on star.

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design 30mm. In the centre and at each edge red/white/red stripes each 2mm, divided by two

yellow stripes each 6mm

Suspension Ring through top of umbrella

148

DILER JUNG

Class II Silver

An unclear photograph of a recipient gives part of the clue to this medal, though the example shown here was unidentified when photographed. It seems a likely choice. Eight awards have been traced, the recipients being both army and police. Two of the early army awards were to officers of General rank but later awards were to Majors.



Obverse Full wreath, open ground, crossed sword and lance. The umbrella is attached to the wreath by a two-ring chain with ring suspender at top of umbrella. No emblem on the star.

Ribbon Originally R2. 2nd design 30mm. Central yellow stripe 6mm edged by red (2mm), white (2mm), red (6mm), white (2mm)

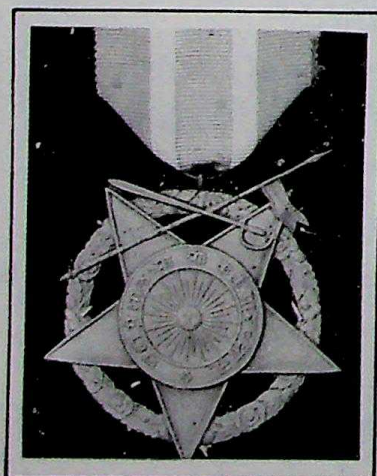
Suspension Ring through top of umbrella

149

RAZM BAHADUR

Class III Bronze

Possible photograph, based on full wreath. No awards have been traced.



Obverse Full wreath, open ground, crossed sword and lance. No umbrella. No emblem on star.

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design 30mm. Central red stripe 14mm edged by white (2mm), yellow (4mm), white (2mm)

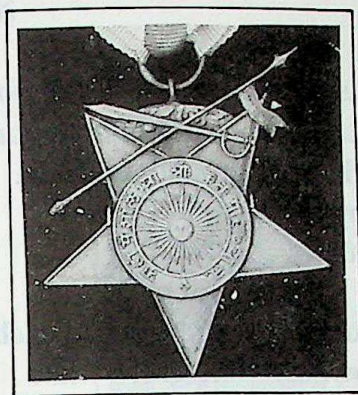
Suspension Ring at top of wreath

150

JUNG BAHADUR

Class III Bronze

Possible photograph, based on top sector wreath only. Only two awards have been traced, both to police Superintendents. The museum in Indore has three gilt specimens of this medal, but what they are and why the difference in metal has not been determined.



- Obverse* Top sector wreath, solid ground between star rays, crossed sword and lance. No umbrella. No emblem.
- Ribbon* Originally R2. 2nd design 30mm. Central white stripe 2mm edged by red (6mm), white (2mm) and outer edges of yellow (6mm)
- Suspension* Ring at top of wreath

FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

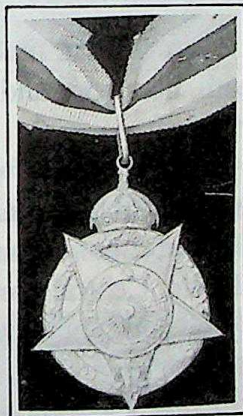
There were three awards within this section, one gold and two silver. Only three medals with Scales of Justice emblem on the star have been traced, hence the following are probable identifications.

151

RAJYA RATNA

Class I Gold

Only one award has been traced, to Rajya Bhushan Rao Raja Rai Bahadur Sir Hukumchand Kt. [1935]



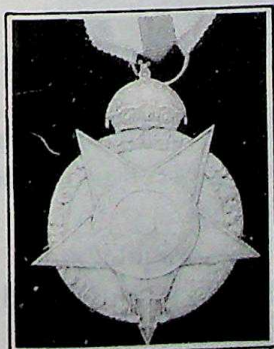
- Obverse* Full wreath, solid ground, umbrella fixed to top of wreath. Scales of Justice emblem
- Ribbon* Originally R2. 2nd design 31mm. Central green stripe (12mm) edged by white/yellow/red/white each 2.5mm.
- Suspension* Worn around the neck; ring at top of umbrella

152

RAJYA BHUSHAN

Class II Silver

Three awards have been traced, two to bankers and one to a lawyer.



- Obverse* Full wreath, solid ground, umbrella fixed to top of wreath. Scales of Justice emblem.
- Ribbon* Originally R2. 2nd design 31mm. Central red stripe 7mm edged by green/white/yellow/blue each 3mm.
- Suspension* Ring through top of umbrella

153

WAFADAR-i-DOWLAT

Class II Silver

Two awards have been traced.



Obverse Full wreath, open ground, umbrella fixed to top of wreath. Scales of Justice emblem.

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design 31mm. From central white stripe out to each edge yellow/red/white/green/white /yellow/red/white/green, all of equal width.

Suspension Ring through top of umbrella

FOR DISTINCTION IN ANY BRANCH OF LEARNING OR SCHOLARSHIP

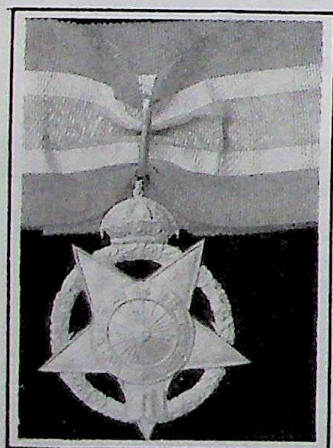
There were only two awards in this section, one gold and one silver. Only two medals have been traced with the open book emblem on the star, hence the following are probable identifications.

154

VIDYA SAGAR

Class I Gold

No awards have been traced.



Obverse Full wreath, open ground, umbrella fixed to wreath, no sword and lance, open book emblem

Ribbon The Sheesh Mahal specimen was suspended on neck ribbon similar in design to R1 and R2 but 54mm wide. 2nd design 31mm. Central green stripe 2mm edged by white (3mm), yellow (6mm), white (3mm), green (2.5mm)

Suspension Ring and loop at top of umbrella

155

PANDIT RATNA

Class II Silver

Four recipients have been identified, all scholars of Sanskrit or astronomy



Obverse Full wreath, open ground, umbrella fixed to wreath, no sword and lance, open book emblem

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design 32mm. Central green stripe (14mm) edged by yellow/white/yellow, each 3mm.

Suspension Ring at top of umbrella

156

HOLKAR MULKI MEDAL

For approved services in Civil departments of the State

Probable identification, based on the lack of sword and lance. Nine awards have been traced, though many examples are known to exist amongst dealers' stocks in India.



Obverse Circular medal with representation within of full wreath, open ground, no crossed sword and lance, umbrella fixed to top of wreath, no emblem

Reverse A wreath of flowers and leaves. SPINK LONDON beneath wreath

Size 38mm

Metal Bronze

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design not known

Suspension Ring



157

HOLKAR JANGI MEDAL

For approved services in Military departments of State

Probable identification, based on inclusion of sword and lance. No awards have been traced, though many examples are known to exist amongst dealers' stock in India.



Obverse Circular medal with representation within of full wreath, open ground, crossed sword and lance, umbrella fixed to top of wreath, no emblem.

Reverse A wreath of flowers and leaves. Superimposed on right side, seated bull and on left side, rearing horse. SPINK LONDON beneath wreath

Size 38mm

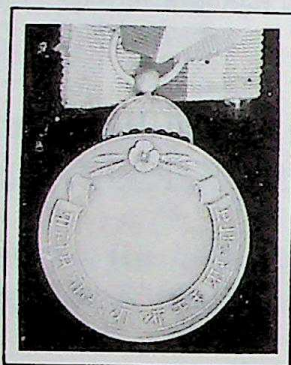
Metal Bronze

Ribbon Originally R1. 2nd design not known

Suspension Ring



UNIDENTIFIED



<i>Obverse</i>	Circular medal with full face bust of Tukoji Rao.
<i>Reverse</i>	A three-quarter garter bearing the Sanskrit legend <i>Prahanaysho Labhya Shri Kartay Prarabhat</i> (Do your best and trust in Providence). Above, a flower with two leaves either side
<i>Size</i>	35mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	The specimen seen was suspended from R2. Not known if there was a subsequent design
<i>Suspension</i>	State umbrella fixed to top rim of medal. Ball and ring at top of umbrella.
<i>Designer</i>	Not known - possibly Spink of London
<i>Naming</i>	Specimen unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known - probably none

The Holkar Sirkar Gazette of 22 November 1920 also announced that the Maharaja had been pleased to institute a Medal, to be called **ZULFIQUAR-YASHWANTIA MEDAL**, to be awarded for pre-eminently conspicuous deeds of valour or pre-eminently distinguished services and stipulated that this medal would take precedence over all other medals. No known example of the medal has been found, but given that the above unidentified medal is the only one from Indore so far traced with the bust of the ruler, it may be the Zulfiqar-Yashwantia Medal, in which case it should appear at the beginning of this chapter. (Note: the spelling of Zulfiqar is as appears in the Holkar Sirkar Gazette. One would have expected to see Zulfiqar).

ALL photographs, with the exception of the three circular medals, are shown approximately two thirds actual size.

NOTES:

1. Supplement to The Holkar Sirkar Gazette, No. 8, dated 22 November 1920. IOLR R/2 (435/104).
2. "Wearing of a State Order by Holkar of Indore". IOLR R/1/4/127
3. Manohar Malgonkar. "Puars of Dewas Senior", p. 308. Bombay: Orient Longmans Limited, 1963.
4. Manohar Malgonkar. "Chhatrapatis of Kolhapur", facing p. 289. Bombay: Popular Prakashan, 1971.

CHAPTER 24

JAIPUR

JYEPOOR, JEYPORE

Area

16,000 sq. miles.

Population

1931 - 2,631,775

Located in the Rajputana area of northwest India, the Maharaja of Jaipur enjoyed a permanent salute of 17 guns, increased locally to 19 guns. Legend traces the history of the State to Rama or Ramchandraj, King of Ayodhya and hero of Ramayana who, to this day, is worshipped by many. Rama had two sons, Kush and Lava. Kush emigrated to Rohtas and in time his descendants, the Kachhawa clan, crossed into Rajputana where Kakildeva (1036-1039 A.D.) took Amber from the Meenas and founded his capital, the parent city of Jaipur, there. There were 21 rulers between Kakildeva and the arrival of Man Singh I who gained fame as one of Akbar's best generals, responsible with his Kachhwahas for expanding Akbar's area of rule into Kabul, the Hindukush and Bengal. During this period of Mughal rule the highest military rank conferred by the Emperors was Panch Hazari, Commander of 5,000 troops. But Akbar conferred on Man Singh the special rank of 'Sapta Hazari', Commander of 7,000 troops.

Akbar's descendant, Aurangzeb, was similarly served by Jai Singh I but, following the death in 1707 of Aurangzeb, the Rajput chiefs began to see in the slowly crumbling Mughal empire the roots of their own independent states. One of Aurangzeb's successors, Muhammad Shah (1719-1748) bestowed on Maharaja Jai Singh II (1699-1744), the great warrior-astronomer, the title of "Sawai" (one and a quarter), signifying that he was superior in knowledge and authority to his peers. It was Jai Singh II who, in 1728, decided that it was time to move down from the mountain-top fort at Amber (earlier re-named Jaigarh Fort) to establish his new capital, Jaipur, on the plains.

Subsequent Maharajas came from different branches of the same family, starting with Ishwari Singh (1744-1760 A.D.). Trouble from neighbouring rulers made life somewhat difficult and Jagat Singh II (1803-1818 A.D.) signed a Treaty of amity and friendship with the British on 12 December 1803. Another treaty, by which Jaipur was declared a Protectorate, was signed on 2 April 1818.

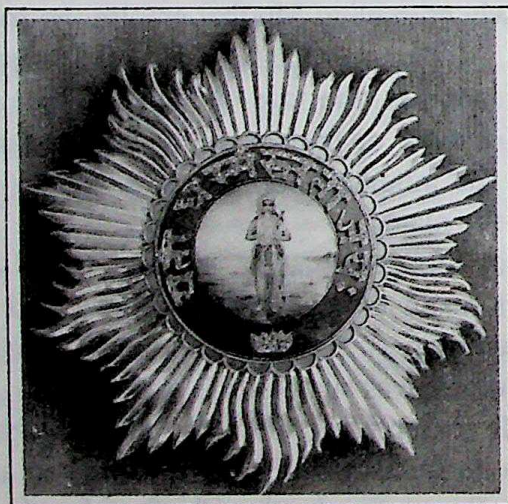
Maharaja Madho Singh II (1880-1922) was responsible for bringing the first Jaipur troops into the Imperial Service Troops scheme under a Treaty signed on 28 January 1899. He had no heir and so adopted his nephew, Mormukat Singh, second son of Raja Sawai Singh, the Chief of Isarda. On adoption Mormukat Singh was given the new name of Man Singh and 18 months later, on 7 September 1922, when only 11 years old, Man Singh became Maharaja. During his minority the State was ruled by a Council of Regency. Man Singh II was educated at Mayo College and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich. On 14 March 1931 he was invested with full powers by the Viceroy, Lord Irwin. Renowned as a soldier and sportsman, especially polo player, Man Singh II was responsible for the further development of the Jaipur State Forces leading to their deployment during the Second World War. Following independence he was appointed Rajpramukh of Rajasthan and later became India's Ambassador to Spain. He died on 24 June 1970 playing polo at Cirencester Park and was succeeded by Bhawani Singh who was at the time serving in the Indian Army as Commanding Officer of a commando unit.

The various insignia that follow all date from the time of Maharaja Man Singh II.

THE MOST EMINENT ORDER OF THE STAR OF DHUNDHAR

(Jaipur was known as Dhundhar by early chroniclers).

Founded in 1947 on the occasion of Maharaja Man Singh's Silver Jubilee, the award was only given to two people; Maharaj Kumar Bhawani Singh of Jaipur (son and heir of Man Singh), and Maharaj Kumar Narendra Singh of Panna (Man Singh's sister was the second wife of Maharaja Yadvendra Singh Bahadur of Panna, though Maharaj Kumar Narendra Singh was the son of Panna's first wife). Brigadier Bhawani Singh MVRc, as the former Maharaj Kumar of Jaipur is now known, still wears his Star of Dhundhar within Jaipur on special occasions, where he remains revered as Maharaja. No sash or sash badge was worn. A group of miniature medals is known to exist which includes a miniature of the Star of Dhundhar suspended from a maroon ribbon. The group is not that of Bhawani Singh who has said that he has never had a miniature and has no knowledge of the maroon ribbon. The group must, if genuine, be attributed to Narendra Singh and one can only speculate that he had the miniature privately manufactured and suspended from a ribbon of his own choosing.



Obverse

A ten pointed star, the rays alternating between silver and gold. The silver rays have straight points while the gold have curved. In the centre an enameled painting of Radha Krishna, the family Deity, against a background of fields and mountains. Around, a red enameled circle with the diamond encrusted legend in Sanskrit *Yato Dharmastato Jai*, (Where there is virtue[Dharma], there is victory).

Reverse

Plain

Size

92mm between widest points

Metal

Gold, silver and enamel

Ribbon

None

Suspension

Pin

Designer

Not known, possibly Spink, London

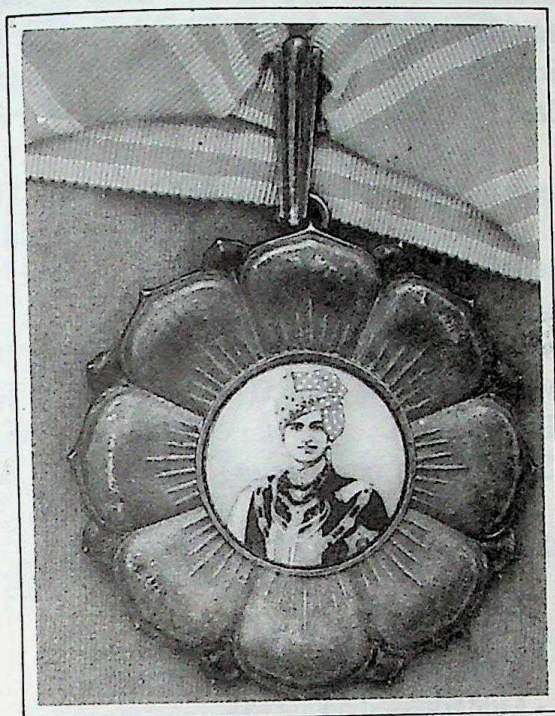
Naming

Unnamed

Bars issued

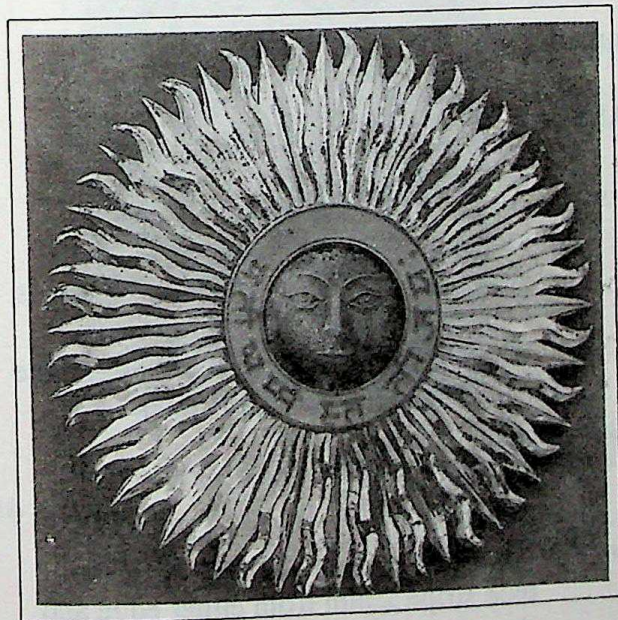
None

ADITYA MANDAL THE ORDER OF THE SUN



Neck Badge

- Obverse* An eight-petal flower with smaller green enamelled petals between. In the centre on a white ground the enamelled portrait of Man Singh II in his robes of the Order of the Indian Empire.
- Reverse* Plain
- Size* 58 mm
- Metal* Silver
- Ribbon* 44 mm red with three golden-yellow stripes at each edge, each one 3mm wide and 3mm apart.
- Suspension* Elongated loop through ring.
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* None



Breast Star

- Obverse* A sun in splendour, the rays in silver, the face in bronze surrounded by a red enamel band with Sanskrit inscription *Yato Dharmastato Jai* (Where there is virtue [Dharma], there is victory).
- Reverse* Plain
- Size* 68 mm
- Metal* Silver
- Ribbon* None. A sash was not worn

A miniature of the neck badge, 18 mm in size, was worn as a breast badge.

THE ORDER OF MERIT

Some confusion surrounds the titles used with this Order and it has not proved possible to clarify the position. Originally thought to be one award divided into three classes, early information suggested that the title ORDER OF MERIT was reserved for the First Class only, the Second and Third Classes being called THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL Class I and Class II. Other sources referred to the ORDER OF MERIT Class I, II and III.

Recently surfaced documentation suggests that, though the generic term for the Order was THE ORDER OF MERIT, there was, in fact, both a Military and a Civil Division. Within the Military Division the Class I award was known as THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE ORDER while the next two classes were known as MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL Classes I and II.

Within the Civil Division the Class I award seems to have been known as MERITORIOUS SERVICE ORDER (CIVIL), while the next two classes were known as MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL Class I (CIVIL) and MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL Class II (CIVIL). It is thought that the same insignia were used for both Military and Civil awards but it is not clear how it was possible to tell the difference between the two

To add to the confusion, reference has been seen to the following titles:

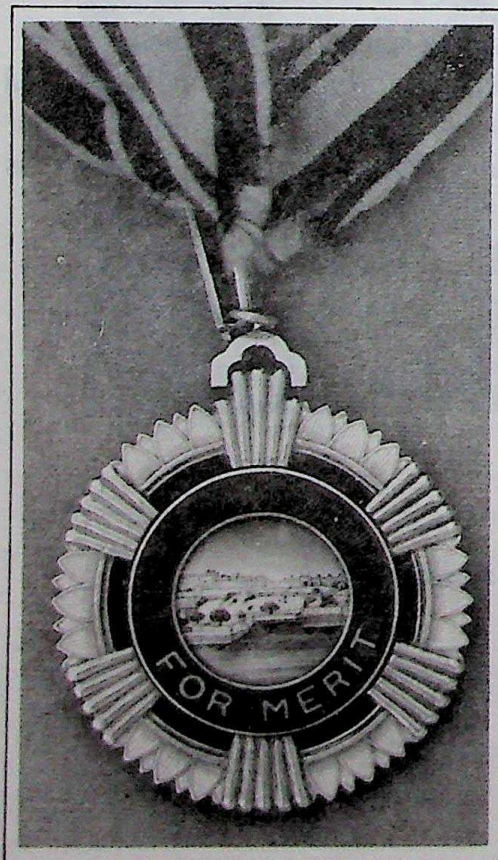
Military Division:

Class I - The Military Service Order

Class II - Military Medal Class I

Class III - Military Medal Class II

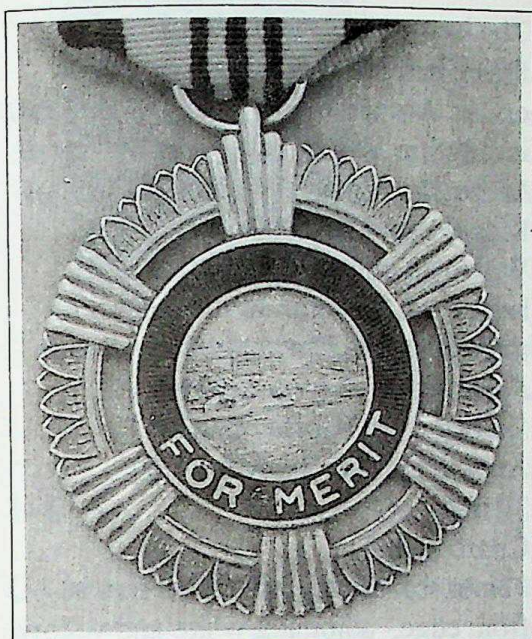
These are thought to be inaccurate and have been disregarded.



FIRST CLASS

<i>Obverse</i>	An outer double ring of pink leaves joined by six rays to a blue enamel circle with, at bottom centre, the words FOR MERIT. In the centre of the whole an enamel picture of Maota Lake below Jaigarh Fort and Amber.
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain, concave
<i>Size</i>	54 mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	Neck ribbon, 44 mm, red with 7 mm blue stripe 2 mm from either edge and three blue stripes in centre, 2 mm wide and 3 mm apart
<i>Suspension</i>	Elongated suspender through hinged ring
<i>Designer</i>	Spink & Son
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

SECOND CLASS



- Obverse* As for First Class, but the whole in plain silver except for the inner blue circle
- Reverse* Plain, concave
- Size* 44 mm
- Metal* Silver
- Ribbon* Design as for First Class but 39 mm breast ribbon, outer stripes 6 mm wide, 1.5 mm from edge. Inner stripes 1.5mm wide, 2mm apart
- Suspension* Plain ring
- Designer* As for First Class
- Naming* As for First Class
- Bars issued* As for First Class

THIRD CLASS



- Obverse* As for Second Class, but bronze
- Reverse* As above
- Size* 36 mm
- Metal* Bronze
- Ribbon* As for Second Class but overall 32 mm, outer stripes 6 mm, inner stripes 1mm
- Suspension* As for Second Class
- Designer* As above
- Naming* As above
- Bars issued* As above

In each case a miniature medal, 18mm diameter, was worn. The ribbon was the same for each, 16 mm wide.

164

Indian Princely Medals

162

CORONATION MEDAL 1922



Obverse The bust of Maharaja Man Singh II facing half left in Rajput ceremonial dress. Around the edge the Devanagari inscription *Shri Maharajadhiraj Sawai Maan Singh II* (His Highness [King of Kings] Sawai Man Singh II)

Reverse Within an outer circle a pattern of leaves and flowers. In the centre, on three lines, the Devanagari inscription *Rajabhishek Ashwin Krishna 12 Samvat 1979* (Coronation on 12 Ashwin Krishna Samvat 1979).

Size 37 mm

Metal Cupro nickel

Ribbon 32mm red. On the left side 5 mm in from edge, adjoining white and yellow stripes each 3 mm. On the right side with similar widths green and blue stripes

Suspension Plain ring

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None



A miniature medal, 17 mm diameter, was issued. Some collectors have been known to refer to the ribbon as belonging to a medal issued in 1931. Although this was the year of the assumption of full powers by Maharaja Man Singh II, no medal was issued to commemorate that event.

163

SILVER JUBILEE MEDAL 1947



Obverse Bust of Maharaja Man Singh II facing right. Around the edge the inscription in Devanagari, *Maharajadhiraj Shri Sawai Maan Singh II* (His Highness Sawai Man Singh II)

Reverse Within an outer circle a pattern of intertwined buds. In the centre, on three lines, the Devanagari inscription *Rajat Jayanti Ashwin Krishna 12 S.2004* (Silver Jubilee Ashwin Krishna 12 Samvat 2004)



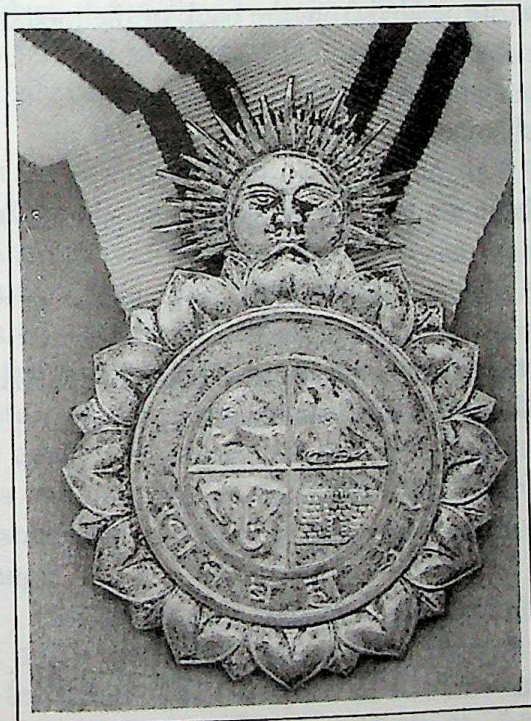
A miniature medal, 17 mm diameter, was issued.

<i>Size</i>	38 mm
<i>Metal</i>	Cupro nickel
<i>Ribbon</i>	32 mm watered orange on outside edges to yellow in centre
<i>Suspension</i>	Plain ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None, but a small sun in splendour is worn on the full size ribbon

164

KHAN BAHADUR

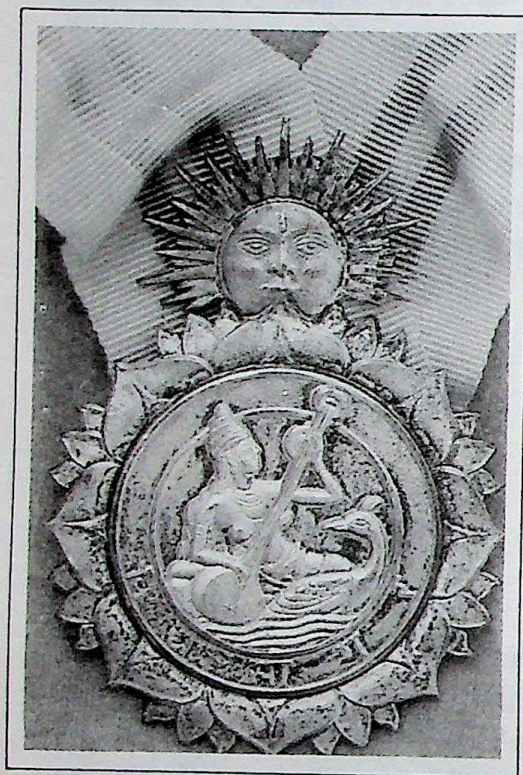
Given by the Maharaja to deserving Muslim subjects.



<i>Obverse</i>	Within an outer ring of leaves a circle with the Devanagari inscription <i>Khan Bahadur</i> . The centre of the whole is divided into quadrants with, clockwise, Kachhawa horse, bird, castle and elephant head. The whole surmounted by a sun in splendour
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	48 mm
<i>Metal</i>	gilt metal
<i>Ribbon</i>	29 mm golden yellow neck ribbon with two green stripes, each 3mm wide 10mm from each edge
<i>Suspension</i>	Suspended from back of medal
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

Deserving Hindu subjects were rewarded with the title **RAO BAHADUR** but no insignia similar to that for **KHAN BAHADUR** has been found and no ribbon is known for such an award. The Maharaja also conferred other titles such as Maharaj (hereditary), Maharawal (personal), Raja (hereditary), Raja (personal), Rawal (personal), Rawat (personal). It is unlikely that any of these carried with them medals. Lower down the scale, below **RAO BAHADUR** and **KHAN BAHADUR**, he also bestowed the titles **RAI SAHIB** and **KHAN SAHIB** but it is not known if medals were issued with these. None have been found.

VIDYA SAGAR OCEAN OF LEARNING



- Obverse* Within an outer ring of leaves a circle with the Devanagari inscription *Vidya Sagar* (Ocean of Learning). In the centre the reclining figure of Sarasvati, the goddess of learning, playing a sitar with a peacock in the foreground, the whole surmounted by the sun in splendour
- Reverse* Plain
- Size* 48 mm
- Metal* gilt metal
- Ribbon* 29 mm golden yellow neck ribbon with two grey stripes each 3 mm wide, 10mm from each edge
- Suspension* Suspended from the back of the medal
- Designer* Not known
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* None

The circumstances under which this medal was issued have not been ascertained, nor is it known how many were ever issued.

There was, according to recently surfaced documentation, a similar award called VISHAG RATAN. No example of a medal has been found and it is not known if one was issued.

CHAPTER 25

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

*Area**85,885 sq miles**Population**1931 - 3,646,243*

Up to the 14th Century, Kashmir was subject to a series of Buddhist and Hindu dynasties. A local dynasty of Muslims then established themselves during the reign of Shams-ud-din but, in 1586, the country was conquered by Akbar and integrated into the Mughal Empire. In 1752 it was subjugated by the powerful Afghan leader, Ahmad Shah Abdali, and remained under Afghan rule until 1819 when it was seized by the Sikhs under Ranjit Singh. From then until 1846 it was ruled by a Governor acting for the Lahore Darbar.

During the same period the neighbouring territory of Jammu was ruled by Ranjit Deo, a Dogra chief of Rajput descent. He died in 1780 and the quarrel for succession gave the Sikhs the opportunity of turning the area into a dependency. Three great nephews of Ranjit Deo took service with the Sikh Darbar, did well and were rewarded with territories by Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1818. Two of these were killed in about 1843 and their estates fell to the survivor of the three, Gulab Singh, who had initially been given the principality of Jammu.

In the revolution which preceded the outbreak of the first Sikh War (Sutlej), Gulab Singh was elected Minister of the Khalsa and, in 1846, following the British victory at Sobraon, he acted as mediator between the British and the Sikhs. The war indemnity imposed by the British on the Sikh Maharaja was so large that he could not meet it. He therefore proposed ceding large tracts of his territory, including Jammu and Kashmir, to the British. Lord Hardinge, Governor General, felt the costs to the British of accepting this would outweigh the value of the area and accepted the offer of Gulab Singh to pay the war indemnity in return for confirmation by the British of his possession of the State. This was recognised by the separate Treaty of Amritsar, signed on 16 March 1846. It is from the date of this treaty that the history of Jammu and Kashmir as a political entity commences, though it was not until the end of 1846 that Gulab Singh, with the aid of British troops, was actually able to establish his authority in Kashmir - the last Governor acting for the Sikh Darbar having resisted the change.

Gulab Singh's exertions to keep together his new found State, coupled with a period of illness, left him a tired man. In February 1856 he abdicated in favour of his only son, Ranbir Singh, and took up the position of Governor of Kashmir under his son. On the outbreak of the Mutiny in 1857 Gulab Singh urged his son to side with the British; advice which he accepted. Gulab Singh died in June 1857 but it was only in August of that year that the British took up the offer of service from Ranbir Singh. Nevertheless, 11 years after the event John Lawrence, then Governor General, minuted that "had Maharaja Gulab Singh turned against us, his ability, his prestige, his experience would have produced a great reaction against us to say nothing of the material means at his disposal." Twenty years after the Mutiny, in 1877, Maharaja Ranbir Singh was granted the hereditary title "Indar Mahindar Bahadur, Sipar-i-Saltanat". The troubles that beset Gulab Singh continued into the reign of Ranbir Singh, but before considering these we need to look at some events which occurred during Gulab Singh's time.

The area of Gilgit had been annexed to Kashmir by Sheikh Mohi-ud-din, Sikh Governor of Kashmir during Maharaja Sher Singh's rule in the Punjab, and had automatically been transferred to

Gulab Singh in 1846. At this time, Gauhar Rehman, Governor of Punial and Yasin, the boundaries of which touched those of Jammu and Kashmir at Gilgit, invaded the frontier area with the help of the chiefs of Hunza and Nagar, two small states located in the extreme north of Kashmir. (Separated by the Hunza river, the people of these two states are also separated by feelings of ill-will towards each other - feelings that persist to this day. The Hunza people are Isma'ilis (followers of the Aga Khan) while those of Nagar are Shia Muslims). Gauhar Rehman's initial invasion had been repulsed, though his subsequent efforts led to the capture of all but four forts in the area. Pre-occupied with his help to the British during the Sikh War, it was not until 1849 that Gulab Singh's Dogras were able to bring the area under control, expelling Gauhar Rehman. Trouble then struck in the following year with an attack on the Gilgit Frontier by the residents of Chilas, an attack that was punished by a punitive expedition in 1851.

In 1852 Gauhar Rehman again invaded Gilgit and laid siege to the forts of Gilgit and Manoar. A relief force under Bhoop Singh Badwal became trapped and all were either massacred or captured. Manoar Fort then fell, followed by Gilgit, the garrisons being either killed or captured and sold as slaves. With attention drawn elsewhere because of the Mutiny, it was not until 1860 that the Dogras were able to retake Gilgit. I am a little dubious, therefore, about the identification of the following medallion, the description of which appeared in Major General Palit's book "Jammu and Kashmir Arms". A later book, "History of Jammu & Kashmir Rifles (1820-1956)" by Major K Brahma Singh, states: "The Dogras appear to have made an attempt to recapture Gilgit in 1855 but the force returned (for some unknown reasons) after successfully running through parts of Gilgit, leaving Gauhar Rehman in control of Gilgit once again." Given that this is one of the earliest campaign medals traced to any State, it seems an unusually unsatisfactory event on which to base an award, especially given more successful earlier and subsequent campaigns. Unfortunately the only illustration seen does not allow for a full translation of the inscription, but that part which has been translated suggests that the medallion is more likely to be connected with events of 1863.

166

UNIDENTIFIED

(given in "Jammu and Kashmir Arms" as)

MEDALLION FOR GILGIT AND CHILAS, 1854

Obverse

Oval medallion with, on four lines, the inscription in Perso-Arabic, *Sir Pram Ji Sahai Tumgha Bahadri wa khalat jalal Fateh Manduri wa yasmeeen Banami --?-- Jawahar Manan sankeh 1920 samvat*. (Sir Pram Ji Sahai Bravery Medal in the name of Jawahar 1920 samvat - equates to 1863 A.D.)

Reverse

Plain

Size

Not known

Metal

Not known

Ribbon

None

Suspension

Pin

Designer

Not known

Naming

Unnamed



If one accepted that this was an award for Gilgit and Chilas, 1854, then the reference to Jawahar could have been to Colonel Jawahar, who commanded one of the regiments operating under Diwan Hari Chand in the earlier 1850 campaign against Gilgit. It seems more likely, however, that it refers to Raja Jawahir Singh of Punch, though his name does not feature in any record consulted so far on the events of 1863. As with the later Hunza Nagar badge, it may originally have been issued to be worn as a collar badge.

With the 1857 Mutiny out of the way, Maharaja Ranbir Singh set about retrieving his position in Gilgit. An expedition against Gauhar Rehman was mounted in 1860, heading for the strongly fortified position that he had created at Gilgit. Gauhar Rehman died, however, of natural causes before the column arrived and his followers surrendered to the Dogras without putting up much of a fight. The State Army, under Colonel Devi Singh Naranja, then turned its attention to the neighbouring Yasin where Gauhar Rehman's brother, Malik Aman, resided. Taking Yasin unopposed, the Dogras placed their own nominee on the *gaddi* and then sought to prevent future trouble by separating Punial from Yasin by making it a tributary of the Jammu and Kashmir State. No sooner had the Kashmir Force withdrawn from the area, however, than Malik Aman returned and ousted the Kashmir nominee. For a while the existence of the now separate Punial buffer zone obviated the necessity for action but eventually, in 1863 (1920 Samvat), the behaviour of Malik Aman caused the Kashmiris to return with a punitive expedition under Colonel Hoshiara (also seen as Hushyarji) of the Ramgole Regiment. The Yasinis were completely routed. Malik Aman fled to the hills while others of his followers attempted to occupy some forts but were defeated before they could organise their defences. Yasin became a tributary of Jammu and Kashmir State, though this did not bring peace to the Gilgit frontier.

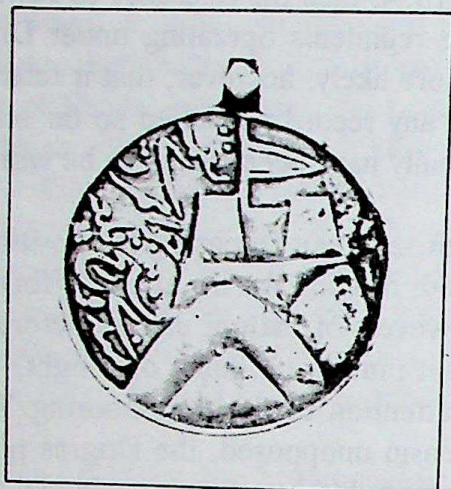
The people of Hunza now started looting and killing passing traders and so another punitive expedition was arranged. An alliance was made with the ruler of Nagar to allow the Dogras to move through his area towards Hunza, but surprisingly he broke off the alliance, causing the Dogras to retreat. Encouraged by this, the Yasinis combined forces with those of the Mehtar of Chitral and attacked forts in the Gilgit area, eventually laying siege to the fort at Punial. Realising they could not take it, the invaders by-passed the fort and headed for Gilgit where the defenders, having had time to prepare themselves, were able to hold off the attack until reinforcements arrived. The relieving column then set about punishing the Darelis who had assisted the Yasinis and Chitralis in the invasion. After some fighting the Kashmiri column entered Darel and subdued the opposition. Troubles continued in the area for a number of years but it is that earlier period of activity that seems to be commemorated by the following medal, issued by Maharaja Ranbir Singh to both officers and men who had been involved.

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WAR MEDAL 1863
variously referred to as
BALTISTAN MEDAL
MEDAL FOR YASIN AND DAREL

Obverse

A crudely produced circular medal depicting a fort on top of a mountain on which a flag is flying. To the side the inscription *Tumgha Jawaan Mardi Fateh Qillah Madoo*, variously translated as (Medal for Bravery at the



	taking of the Fort of Mandauri, or Medal [for] Bravery and Victory Madoo Fort).
<i>Reverse</i>	A leaf like pattern and the inscription 'The country of Yasin, 1920 Samvat'
<i>Size</i>	40mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	Possibly suspended around the neck on a red cord
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

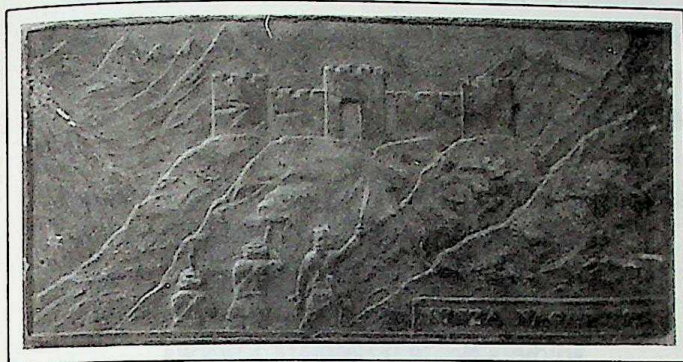
Although political relations between the Government of India and the Jammu and Kashmir State had commenced in 1849, they had initially been conducted by the Punjab Government and the Maharaja's Agent at Lahore. It was not until 1852 that the first "Officer on Special Duty" in the State was appointed, though he still reported through the Punjab Government until 1877 when he was brought under direct control of the Government of India.

A separate Political Agent had first been appointed by the British in Gilgit in 1877 but he was withdrawn in 1881. The death of Maharaja Ranbir Singh in 1885, and the succession of his eldest son, Pratap Singh, coincided with the Panjdeh incident which brought the British to the point of war with Russia. Although this was avoided, the incident brought home to the British the importance of the Gilgit frontier region to the defence of India as a whole.

On the death of Ranbir Singh, therefore, the British changed the designation of the "Officer on Special Duty" to "Resident in Kashmir". Four years later, in 1889, the Gilgit Agency was re-established under the control of the Resident in Kashmir, the first Agent being Lieutenant Colonel A G Durand. He soon visited Hunza and Nagar where the Chiefs bound themselves to accept his control and permit unhindered travel through their region, in return for which they were granted an annual subsidy. The Chiefs, however, failed to live up to their agreement and in 1891 Durand mounted an expedition to bring them under control. With British Indian troops (No 4 (Hazara) Mountain Battery, 1/5 Gurkha Rifles, and a few men of the 20th Punjab Infantry) the Kashmir force assisted in the taking of Nilt Fort, the only serious action of the campaign. The clasp HUNZA 1891 was authorised for the India General Service Medal 1854 and was awarded in both silver and bronze to Kashmiri troops. In addition, however, Maharaja Ranbir Singh ordered the distribution of his own award to his troops who had taken part.

HUNZA NAGAR BADGE 1891

Originally issued to be worn as a brooch at the neck, it was later decided that it could be worn as a medal and some of the badges had the original fittings altered in order to accommodate the ribbon. Given the number of IGS awards, it is likely that somewhere in the region of 1515 Badges were made.



- Obverse* A rectangular, slightly concave badge with an officer and two sepoy soldiers storming a fort in the hills. In the bottom right hand corner the inscription HUNZA NAGAR 1891.
- Reverse* Plain but for the inscription GURNEY & SON, LONDON, WOODSTOCK STREET
- Size* 53mm x 26mm
- Metal* Bronze
- Ribbon* 45mm wide. The stripes run diagonally from top right to bottom left and have serrated edges. The centre stripe is white (6mm) edged by maroon (11mm), with the top left and bottom right corners green.
- Suspension* Originally two loops for a split pin. Some have since been altered to allow for the ribbon.
- Designer* Not known. Made by Gurney & Son, London
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* None

On 30 August 1892 the Mehtar of Chitral was assassinated. His son, Afzul-ul-Mulk, who seized the throne was murdered by his uncle who in turn was defeated and displaced by Nizam-ul-Mulk. The British recognised Nizam-ul-Mulk but on 1 January 1895 he too was murdered at the instigation of his stepbrother, Amir-ul-Mulk. Umra Khan of Jandul then advanced on the southern border and prepared to advance on Chitral, joined by Sher Afzal and his troops. A force of 4th Kashmir Rifles under Captain C V P Townsend was ordered by the garrison commander, Captain Campbell, to confront the enemy outside the confines of the fort, but with disastrous results. Campbell, who had arrived to supervise operations, was hit by a bullet and incapacitated. The 4th lost 23 killed and 33 wounded before Townsend was able to fall back on the fort where he assumed command of the garrison. They were, however, besieged in the fort from 4 March until 20 April, constantly repulsing attacks. Lieutenant Colonel J G Kelly, Commanding 32 Pioneers, was ordered to lead a relief column. Leaving Gilgit on 23 March for the 354 km march, his column included other men of 4th Kashmir Rifles. Mastuj, which was also under siege, was relieved on 9 April before the Force continued its march to Chitral, reaching it on 20 April, 29 days and many hardships after having left Gilgit. Sher Afzal, having heard of the advance of the Force, beat a hasty retreat before they arrived. Another expeditionary force under Major General Sir Robert Low, including 1 Kashmir Mountain Battery and forces from other Indian States, as well as many British and Indian Army soldiers, advanced from Peshawar over the Malakand Pass to the Jandul Valley. 4th Kashmir Rifles personnel under Townsend were awarded the battle honour "DEFENCE OF CHITRAL" and 1st Kashmir Mountain Battery the battle honour "CHITRAL". All participating Kashmir troops were awarded the Indian General Service Medal 1895 with one of the two clasps, "Defence of Chitral 1895" or "Relief of Chitral 1895". In addition, Maharaja Ranbir Singh struck a



	taking of the Fort of Mandauri, or Medal [for] Bravery and Victory Madoo Fort).
<i>Reverse</i>	A leaf like pattern and the inscription 'The country of Yasin, 1920 Samvat'
<i>Size</i>	40mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	Possibly suspended around the neck on a red cord
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

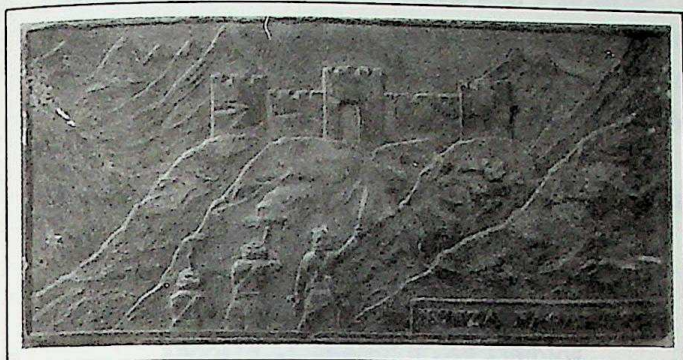
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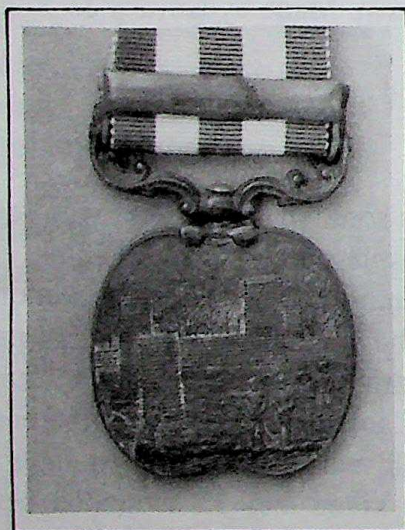
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- Size* 53mm x 26mm
- Metal* Bronze
- Ribbon* 45mm wide. The stripes run diagonally from top right to bottom left and have serated edges. The centre stripe is white (6mm) edged by maroon (11mm), with the top left and bottom right corners green.
- Suspension* Originally two loops for a split pin. Some have since been altered to allow for the ribbon.
- Designer* Not known. Made by Gurney & Son, London
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* None

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medal for issue to his own troops.

169

JUMMOO AND KASHMIR MEDAL 1895



- Obverse* A kidney-shaped medal, being recessed at the centre of the top and bottom. A representation of the State coat of arms (but see note below) supported by two soldiers holding pennant lances. Beneath, a scroll with the Devanagari inscription *Prashasta Ranveerta* (Excellence in bravery). Beneath, in English JUMMOO AND KASHMIR and to the left, in very small lettering, the name GURNEY
- Reverse* A large fortress with mountains and trees in the background and an officer and three native soldiers in the foreground
- Size* 39mm wide. 34mm top to bottom at its narrowest part
- Metal* Bronze
- Ribbon* 32mm: Equal stripes of red, white, green, white, red
- Suspension* A floreated swivel suspender
- Designer* Not known. Made by Gurney & Son, London
- Naming* Found either unnamed or very crudely impressed in block capitals.
- Bars issued* One - CHITRAL 1895. The reverse of the bar is stamped GURNEY, LONDON. Not issued without a bar.

The coat of arms on the obverse agrees with that shown in Robert Taylor's "The Princely Armory", published by the Government of Bengal, Calcutta, in 1877 but apparently differs from that used in the years 1877-1953. In the former the arms consist of a shield with three zigzag stripes, in between the first and second stripes being three roses, barbed and budded natural. The helmet is surmounted by a crest of the sun in splendour resting on a bar. The later coat of arms had three roses between the second and third stripes as well as the first two, and the crest consisted of a mountain with a golden rising sun. If introduced in 1877, it is odd that these changes were not reflected in the medal struck in 1895. Four Indian Army syces present at the Defence of Chitral also received the Maharaja's medal. That awarded to Sepoy Sujan Singh, 14th Bengal Infantry, is in the Sheesh Mahal Museum, Patiala.

During the Great War 1914-1918 the Kashmir Army was considerably increased and units fought

with distinction in East Africa and Palestine. They also took part in the Third Afghan War 1919. In addition to the various Imperial medals that they would have been awarded, Maharaja Pratap Singh struck his own war medal, in both silver and bronze.

170

WAR MEDAL 1914-1918

Obverse The State coat of arms as described in the note above except that the three roses appear above the first stripe, three different flowers appear between the first and second stripes, and three buds between the second and third. The helmet and crest is as described in the note above for the later version.

Reverse On six lines the inscription 1919 A.D. AWARDED FOR SERVICES RENDERED DURING THE GREAT WAR 1914 - 1918

Size 47mm

Metal Silver and Bronze

Ribbon Not known

Suspension Ring and loop

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Not known but probably none



In addition to the above, reference has been seen to **VICEROY VISIT MEDAL (HARDINGE) 1910 or 1916** and **CAMPAIGN MEDAL JARIN HUSCHIN BALA MALEK**. No other details are known and it is not known if the references are accurate.

Note:

1. Gazetteer of Kashmir and Ladakh, pp 136-137, as quoted in Major K Brahma Singh, "History of Jammu and Kashmir Rifles (1820-1956)" Delhi, Lancer International, 1990.

CHAPTER 26

JAWHAR

Area

308 square miles

Population

1931 - 57,261

One of the Baroda and Gujarat States, the rulers claimed their descent from Jayaba Mukne, one of the Koli Chiefs or Palegars of the Northern Konkan area. His son Nemshah was recognised as Raja of Jawhar by the Emperor of the Deccan on 5 June 1343 A.D. and this was seen as such a unique honour that it was designated the beginning of a new era and the year of the State.

One particularly enlightened ruler was Shrimant Raja Malhar Rao (Patangshah IV) the Great, who acceded to the *gaddi* in 1867. He was succeeded in 1905 by his son, Shrimant Raja Balasahib (Krishnashah), but he died in 1918 and was in turn succeeded by his brother Shrimant Raja Martand Rao (Vikramshah V). For his services during the First World War he was granted an hereditary salute of 9 guns. He died on 10 December 1927 and was succeeded by his son, Yashwant Rao, born in 1917 and therefore a minor on his accession. The State remained under Administration until 16 January 1938 when Yashwant Rao was invested with full ruling powers and assumed the name Patangshah V.

171

MAHARAJA PADAK

King's Medal

*Obverse*

The full face bust of Yashwant Rao in uniform with aiguillette and two medals (George V Jubilee and George VI Coronation). Around the edge the Devanagari inscription *Maharaja Yashwant Rao Godharma Pratipalak* (Maharaja Yashwant Rao, Upholder of duty to cows).

*Reverse*

Within an inner circle the Devanagari inscription *Maharaja Padak* (King's Medal) *Shri Jawhar Shak 605*, (a reference to the Jawhar year 605 [see note below])

Size

39mm

Metal

Silver

Ribbon

Not known

Suspension

Not known. The example seen was broken but displayed signs of what had probably been a ring suspender

Designer

Not known

Naming

Unnamed

Bars issued Not known, probably none

Jawhar year 605 equates to 1948 A.D. Along with other Gujarat States Jawhar was merged with Bombay on 10 June 1948, though the merger agreement was signed on 19 March 1948. This medal may therefore have been created to mark the end of the State as such and its integration into independent India.

CHAPTER 27

JIND

Area

1299 sq miles

Population

1931 - 324,676

A Sikh State composed of a number of isolated tracts within the southern Punjab, the ruler enjoyed a permanent salute of 13 guns. He belonged to the same Jat family as the ruler of Patiala and similarly traced his ancestry to Baryam, to whom Emperor Babur had granted the office of *chaudrayat* (revenue collector) in 1526. From Baryam was descended Chaudri Phul who received a *firman* from Emperor Shah Jehan continuing him in this office. From Phul's eldest son descended the families of Nabha and Jind, and from his second son the family of Patiala.

The State was founded by Gajpat Singh in 1763 after he had taken part in the Sikh uprising against the Afghan governor of Sirhind. Gajpat Singh was recognised as Raja by the Emperor of Delhi five years later in 1768. One of his daughters was, in later years, to give birth to a son who became the best known of the Sikh leaders, Ranjit Singh, Lion of the Punjab.

Following the Battle of Delhi on 11 September 1803, Raja Bagh Singh made a number of advances towards the British and in January 1805, following a defeat of the Sikhs by Colonel Burn, joined the British with a detachment of troops and stayed for several months. In recognition Lord Lake confirmed to Jind a grant of lands previously held by the King of Delhi and by Scindhia. A proclamation of guarantee against encroachment was signed with the Cis-Sutlej chiefs, including Jind, on 3 May 1809 and a grant of further lands to the ruler was made by a treaty of 22 September 1847 in recognition of services provided in the Sutlej campaign of the previous year.

In 1857 Swarup/Sarup Singh was the first to march against the mutineers at Delhi and he remained in the British camp until the reoccupation of the city. He received many honours from the British, including grants of land and an increase in gun salutes. He died in 1864, the year in which he was created GCSI, and was succeeded by his son, Raghbir Singh, who ruled until his death in 1887. He in turn was succeeded by his son, Ranbir Singh, when a minor. He was invested with full ruling powers in November 1899 and went on to rule until 1947.

DELHI DURBAR 1911



Obverse

The conjoined busts of King George V and Queen Mary. Around the edge the inscription THEIR IMPERIAL MAJESTIES KING EMPEROR GEORGE V AND QUEEN EMPRESS MARY

Reverse

The State coat of arms of Jind. Around the edge the inscription PRESENTED BY H.H. THE MAHARAJA OF JIND TO COMMEMORATE THE

**CORONATION AT DELHI 1911**

<i>Size</i>	51mm
<i>Metal</i>	Pewter
<i>Ribbon</i>	Not known
<i>Suspension</i>	Crude ring pinned through the medal
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

173

GOLDEN JUBILEE 1937

Maharaja Sir Ranbir Singh

The existence of this medal is known principally by reference to a ribbon, which is 32mm divided into two equal parts of golden yellow and blue, though a photograph is known of a recipient wearing the medal. The detail is indistinct, but the medal is circular and appears to bear the effigy of the ruler on the obverse, facing left.

174

DIAMOND JUBILEE 1947

Maharaja Sir Ranbir Singh



<i>Obverse</i>	The State coat of arms of Jind State
<i>Reverse</i>	Around the top edge the inscription DIAMOND JUBILEE 1887-1947. In the centre on six lines OF BRIGADIER HIS HIGHNESS MAHARAJA SIR RANBIR SINGH RAJENDRA BAHADUR. On the lower edge OF JIND

<i>Size</i>	34mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm. 7.5mm blue edges with 17mm golden yellow centre bisected by 2mm blue stripe
<i>Suspension</i>	Crude ring soldered to top
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

178

Indian Princely Medals

175

CORONATION MEDAL 1948

The existence of this medal is known only by reference to a ribbon which is 37mm wide; 4mm centre blue stripe with on each side 9mm golden yellow, 4mm red and 4mm green. Maharaja Ranbir Singh's son and heir was Yuvraj Rajbir Singh, born in 1918, but it has not been confirmed that there was a coronation in 1948.

176

INTEGRATION MEDAL 1948

The existence of this medal is known only by reference to a ribbon which is 38mm, dark blue with 6mm red edges and three central stripes of 1mm golden yellow. There is, however, some doubt about the authenticity of this identification since the ribbon is identical to that of the Grand Cross for Officers of Switzerland.

177

UNIDENTIFIED

Obverse Apparently the State coat of arms in the centre (though the only example seen was badly worn) with, around the edge, the Gurmukhi inscription *Yaphar Aj Nanak Guru Gobind Singh Deg Teg Fateh Nasrat Khedranga* (believed to translate as Nanak Guru Gobind Singh is Grace, Power and Victory). Around the coat of arms the Persian inscription *Sarkar Jeend* (Government of Jeend). It is also possible that the inscription *2nd Platoon 1919 AD* appears on the medal.



Reverse Within an oval a Persian inscription but too worn on the specimen seen to be translated

Size Not recorded

Metal Tin

Ribbon Not known

Suspension Crude ring

Designer Unknown

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None known

CHAPTER 28

JODHPUR (MARWAR)

Area

36,071 sq miles

Population

1931 - 2,134,948

One of the three principal States in Rajputana, as recognised by the ruler's permanent salute of 17 guns (increased locally to 19), Jodhpur was ruled by the head of the Rathore clan of Rajputs, offshoots of which included Bikaner, Kishengarh, Idar and Ratlam. Rulers of Jodhpur claimed a long descendancy; according to Tod, the Chronicler of Rajputana, from the splintered spine of the god Indra, but according to others from the second son of Rama, King of Ayodhya. As with the rulers of Udaipur, therefore, the rulers of Jodhpur referred to themselves as *Surjya Vamsa* (Solar race).

The family's predecessors had ruled Kanauj until the dynasty collapsed with Jai Chand in 1149 A.D. Jai Chand's grandson, Shivaji, while passing through Marwar on a pilgrimage, repelled a band of marauders near Pali and, being asked to stay by local Brahmans, established a foothold in this region known as the 'Land of Death'. Although some expansion followed under his successors, it was not until 1382 that Rao Chanda, tenth in succession to Shivaji, conquered Mandor, then the capital of Marwar and the Rathore claim to Marwar was established.

The city of Jodhpur, the second largest in Rajasthan, stands at the edge of the Thar Desert and was founded by and named after Rao Jodha in 1459. It is properly the name of this capital, rather than the name of Marwar, by which the rulers have since been known. In 1528 Rathores fought under the standard of Udaipur against the Mughal Emperor Babar. In 1544 the Afghan Sher Shah led a large army into Marwar and in 1561 Akbar invaded as a result of which Udai Singh, son of the Jodhpur ruler, was sent to serve under the Mughal Emperor. When Udai Singh succeeded his father he gave his sister, Jodhbai, in marriage to Akbar, for which he was rewarded with the restoration of most of the former Marwar possessions, plus some in Malwa. Udai Singh's son attained high honour with Akbar but in turn his son, Jaswant Singh, led the army against Aurangzeb and was defeated. Although subsequently appointed by Aurangzeb to command an army, he was sent off to fight the Afghans, an expedition from which he did not return.

During the infancy of Jaswant Singh's son, Ajit Singh, Aurangzeb sacked Jodhpur and other major towns and demanded the conversion of the Rathores to Islam. Alliances between the Rathore families of Jodhpur, Jaipur and Udaipur, made as a result of Aurangzeb's behaviour towards them, hastened the Mughal decline. One condition demanded by the chiefs of Jodhpur and Jaipur was that they should once more be able to marry princesses of the house of Udaipur, previously forfeited in favour of marriage to the Mughal emperors, but in return Udaipur imposed a condition that any children of the Udaipur princesses should take precedence over other royal children in issues of succession. This stipulation by Udaipur led to quarrels which lasted for generations and finally allowed the Mahrattas to force the Rathore alliance apart and impose their will over the Rathores.

In 1803 Man Singh had just been elected chief of Jodhpur after a long struggle with a cousin. Recognising his weak position he finally succumbed to British pressures by signing a treaty of amity and alliance with the HEIC at Surhindie on 22 December 1803, though it was not ratified. The treaty was cancelled in 1804 when Man Singh sided with Holkar. Scindia conquered Jodhpur and levied a tribute. The following year, when settling differences with Scindia, the British, by way of expressing

their displeasure with Man Singh's reluctance to join them in treaty, handed Man Singh to Scindia from whose overview he had temporarily escaped, with the injunction, "Your Highness will act according to your pleasure towards that Raja".¹ Problems of succession and a disastrous war with Jaipur over a marriage, coupled with Pindari freebooters in Jodhpur, left the State in a parlous condition and, on 6 January 1818, another treaty was signed with the British at Delhi, thereby bringing the State fully under British protection.

For all its size and importance, its maintenance of a sizeable and important army within the Indian States Forces, and the influence in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries of Sir Pertab Singh, undoubtedly the most famous of the Princely soldiers, Jodhpur seems to have issued very few medals and no decorations. Paradoxically, it may have been Sir Pertab Singh's influence which led to this, given his close relationship with the British Royal household. Born the third son of Takhat Singh (1843-1873 AD), who ruled Jodhpur during the Indian Mutiny, Pertab Singh never ruled Jodhpur in his own right though he acted as Regent on three occasions. He was responsible for raising Jodhpur's famous Lancer regiment, the Sardar Rissala, and personally led the troops in the field in the Punjab Frontier and Tirah campaign of 1897-98. He also took the regiment to China for the Third China War, 1900, and served in France during the First World War. Given his intimate friendship with three British sovereigns, it may be that he shared the British-held view that the King-Emperor was the fount of all honour, an attitude that caused the British on more than one occasion to dissuade State rulers from instituting honours of their own as described in Chapter One. It is possible, therefore, that this attitude influenced Jodhpur's policy in this sensitive area.

178

POLICE MEDAL FOR BRAVERY

Known only by the existence of a ribbon, 32mm, divided into five equal stripes of green, golden yellow, maroon, white and pink. No actual example of the medal has been traced. A miniature ribbon is known, suggesting that a miniature medal was issued.

179

POLICE MEDAL FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

Known only by the existence of a ribbon, 32mm, divided into three equal stripes of green, golden yellow and maroon. A miniature ribbon is also known.

180

GREAT WAR SERVICE MEDAL, 1919

<i>Obverse</i>	The State coat of arms with motto in Sanskrit, <i>Ran Banka Rathore</i> (the Rathore - invincible in battle)
<i>Reverse</i>	On six lines, in English, the inscription 1919 A.D. AWARDED FOR SERVICES RENDERED DURING

THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918

<i>Size</i>	46mm
<i>Metal</i>	Both silver and bronze
<i>Ribbon</i>	Not known
<i>Suspension</i>	Loop attached to small triangular suspender
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Not known
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known, probably none

The existence of this medal has only recently come to light in a private collection in the U.S.A. and I have been unable to obtain a photograph of it. It is strange that no hint of its existence has appeared in the otherwise comprehensive ribbon collections known to the author. It may, of course, be that the ribbon listed as 'unidentified' at the end of this section properly belonged to this medal, i.e. 35mm divided equally into green, yellow, red, yellow, green.

181

VICTORY MEDAL 1939-45

Originally thought to have been presented to all who served in the Second World War, this has since been contradicted by soldiers who served in the Jodhpur State Forces who claim never to have received it. It is not clear, therefore, why it was struck and to whom it was given.



Obverse The bust of Maharajadhiraja Sir Umaid Singh Bahadur in his uniform as an Air Commodore, RAF, facing left. Around the inscription H.H. MAHARAJA OF JODHPUR

Reverse A scene depicting Meherangarh Fort atop its rocky hill. Around the top outer edge the inscription V.E. MAY 8. V.J. AUG:15 1945

Size 50mm

Metal Bronze

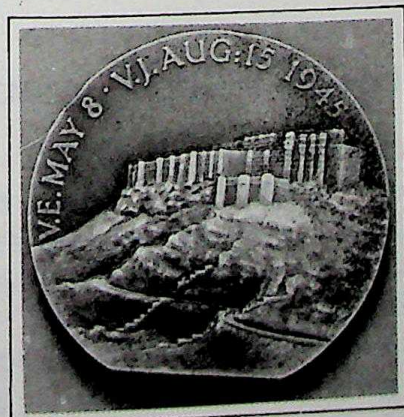
Ribbon Not known - possibly none

Suspension The example seen had no form of suspension, nor any sign of one having been fitted. It may be, therefore, that the medal was never intended to be worn.

Designer Designed by John Pinches, modelled by G BurrIDGE, supplied to Garrard & Co, London.

Naming The example seen was unnamed

Bars issued Not known, probably none



CORONATION MEDAL 1947

(Maharaja Hanwant Singh)



<i>Obverse</i>	The bust of Hanwant Singh facing half left wearing turban. Around the edge the Devanagari inscription <i>Shri Maharajadhiraj Shri Hanwant Singhji Bahadur/Jodhpur</i> (His Highness (King of Kings) Hanwant Singh/Jodhpur)
<i>Reverse</i>	Within a wreath the legend on two lines <i>Raj Tilak (Coronation) 21 June 1947</i>
<i>Size</i>	38mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm. 5mm red, 3mm white, 2.5mm green, 11mm maroon, 2.5mm green, 3mm white, 5mm saffron
<i>Suspension</i>	Loop
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

An example of this medal is known in a collection in America but it must be very rare because enquiries in Jodhpur revealed that, though former soldiers of the Jodhpur State Forces received the ribbon, as did other soldiers from neighbouring States who attended the Coronation, none ever received the actual medal. A surviving male relative of the Maharaja produced a miniature medal but did not have the full size one and could not recall having seen it.

UNIDENTIFIED

A hitherto unidentified ribbon attributed to Jodhpur, it is 30mm divided equally into green, yellow, red, yellow, green. Given the recent identification of the Great War Service Medal 1919, without ribbon, the two may be connected.

Notes:

1. "The Making of the Indian Princes". Edward Thompson. Oxford University Press, London, 1943.

CHAPTER 29

KAPURTHALA

Area

599 sq miles

Population

1931 - 316,757

The ruling Ahluwalia family of this Trans-Sutlej Sikh state traced their origins to Sadhu Singh, who founded four villages in the vicinity of Lahore in the seventeenth century. The real founder of the family, however, was Baba Jassa Singh, a contemporary of Nadir Shah and Ahmad Shah, and in his day the leading Sikh, who did more than any of his contemporaries to consolidate the power of the Khalsa.

A treaty was first signed on 1 January 1806 between the British on the one hand and Sardar Ranjit Singh, with Sardar Fateh Singh, grandson of Jassa Singh, on the other. By a further sanad of 1809 the ruler was required to support the British troops when required. During the First Sikh War, or Sutlej campaign, of 1845-46 the ruler of the day, Nihal Singh, failed to place his resources at the disposal of the British and as a consequence lost to the British all of his territories south of the Sutlej, and was only allowed to retain the remainder on payment of a subsidy. During the Second Sikh War, or Punjab campaign, of 1848-49 the same ruler cooperated and was made a Raja. During the Mutiny of 1857 Raja Nihal Singh's son, Raja Randhir Singh, offered his services though these were declined because of the extent of his contributory payments. Nevertheless, with his brother Kanwar Bikram Singh he marched to Jalandhar and later led another contingent to Oudh. For his services he received land and other rewards.

The last ruler before Independence, Jagatjit Singh, had come to the *gaddi* a minor and so the State was initially administered by an officer of the Punjab Commission. In 1890 Jagatjit Singh was invested with full powers, though in the latter part of 1901 a Council was appointed to administer the State under the general supervision of the Raja. An ardent Francophile, he was reputed to be one of the best hosts in India. At the Delhi Durbar of 1911 he was created GCSI and granted the title Maharaja. He represented India at the League of Nations, Geneva, in 1926, 1927 and 1929 and was a member of the Round Table Conference in London in 1931. Other honours followed, though he resigned his membership of the Chamber of Princes in 1933. He died in 1947 aged seventy-four, having ruled for sixty-nine years, and was succeeded by his eldest son and Heir Apparent, Paramjit Singh.

All of the medals traced date from the rule of Jagatjit Singh.

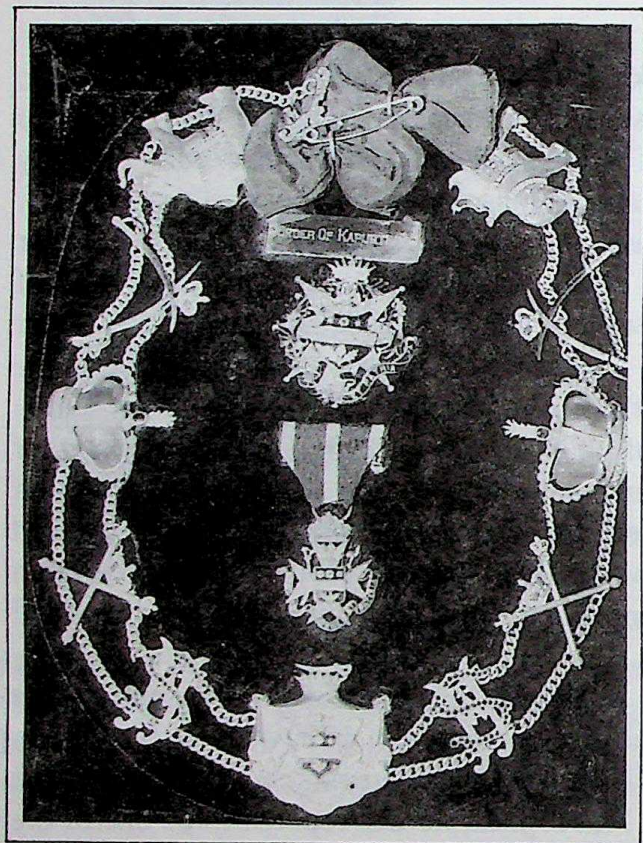
NISHAN-i-SHAHI
ROYAL ORDER

The official State publications have not been traced and so the exact date of the founding of the Order has not been confirmed. Some sources refer to the Order having been established in 1914 but several pictures are known of Jagatjit Singh wearing the Order in conjunction with his insignia of KCSI, i.e., before 1911. Indeed, one picture is dated October 1899.

The Order was awarded only to members of the Kapurthala Family, or to other Princes, for exceptional services. The pictures of Jagatjit Singh reveal a variety of ways of wearing the insignia. In some pictures he is shown wearing the sash of the KCSI while in others he wears the sash of this Order

(across his left shoulder) in preference to that of the KCSI. In one picture the sash badge is worn as a breast star; in another it is worn in its proper place as the sash badge but without any breast star. Nevertheless, they were quite separate and distinct insignia.

Collar



Obverse A double gold chain secured at the rear by a gold pin and blue ribbon. The State coat of arms in gilt with white and red enamel work is flanked on either side by the initials J J S A (Jagatjit Singh Ahluwalia). The letter S is set with sapphires, the other letters with diamonds. A pair of crossed gilt Scepters, each surmounted by a crown and with a crown at the junction of the Scepters, comes next. A gilt, red and white enamel crown set with pearls is next followed by crossed Tulwars, points uppermost, with a crown at the junction and finally a gilt elephant with white enamel Howdah.

Reverse Plain
Size Overall length of collar - 27 inches.
Metal Gilt, enamel and precious stones.
Ribbon see Sash Badge
Suspension not applicable
Designer Possibly Arthus Bertrand of Paris

Breast Star



Obverse A ten pointed star in silver. Superimposed on this a ten pointed white enamel star with blue enamel garter and the inscription PRO REGE ET PATRIA (For King and Country). In the centre of the silver star a shield with the State coat of arms (on three horizontal bands of blue, white and blue, a sun and two stars in the top, a cannon in the centre and a slipped acorn with two leaves at the bottom). Between the rays of the white star ten blue enamel appointments. The whole surmounted by a silver and blue enamel

<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	76mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver and enamel
<i>Ribbon</i>	see Sash Badge
<i>Suspension</i>	Pin

Sash Badge

<i>Obverse</i>	An eight pointed star, faceted and perforated, with an English-style coronet and Knight's helm on the top ray. In the centre of the star a shield with the State coat of arms (as for the Breast Star). Entwined through the lower points of the star a blue enamelled ribbon with the inscription PRO REGE ET PATRIA. The star rests on a wreath with red berries.
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	63mm from top of crown to bottom point of Star
<i>Metal</i>	Gilt and enamels. The star was set with diamonds.
<i>Ribbon</i>	Two widths known. 96mm; 30mm dark blue stripes with three white stripes each 12mm, one centre and one at each edge. 10cms: centre (14mm) and edge (13mm) white stripes with two dark blue (30mm) in between
<i>Suspension</i>	Buckle and ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly Arthus Bertrand of Paris

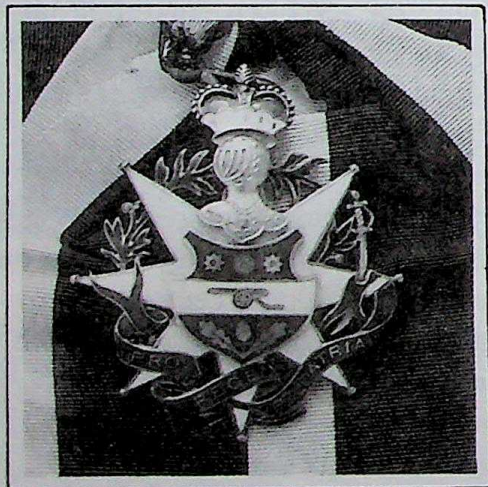
NISHAN-i-IFTEKHAR (ORDER OF PRIDE)

Awarded in three classes; Class I to Premier Class State Officials and members of the Household Staff; Class II to Class I State Officials and State Force commissioned officers; Class III to other deserving individuals.

CLASS I

Normally worn as a sash badge, similar in design to that for Nishan-i-Shahi, and worn from a sash identical to that for Nishan-i-Shahi. Members of the Household Staff wore their insignia around the neck from a ribbon identical to that used with Class III.

Sash Badge



Obverse An eight pointed star, faceted and perforated, with a crown (different to the Coronet on Nishan-i-Shahi badge) and Knight's helm on the top ray. In the centre of the star a shield with State coat of arms (as for Nishan-i-Shahi sash badge). The remainder of the badge as for the Royal Order sash badge except that in addition to the wreath with red berries there is also a tulwar, point down, to one side of the star.

Reverse Plain

Size 52mm x 60mm

Metal Silver and enamel. Unlike Nishan-i-Shahi it is not set with diamonds.

Ribbon **Sash.** As for Nishan-i-Shahi.

Neck ribbon. 38mm: centre and edge white stripes (4mm) with two dark blue stripes (11mm) between and outer edges of 2mm dark blue. Worn 20 inches long.

Suspension Buckle and ring

Designer Possibly Arthus Bertrand of Paris

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None

Class II

As with Class I, a sash badge worn from a sash identical to that for Nishan-i-Shahi, though the badge was of a different design to Class I.



Obverse Identical to the centre part of the breast star of Nishan-i-Shahi; a ten pointed white enamel star with blue enamel garter and PRO REGE ET PATRIA (For King and Country). In the centre of the star a shield with the State coat of arms (on three horizontal bands of blue, white and blue, a sun and two stars in the top, a cannon in the centre and a slipped acorn with two leaves at the bottom). The whole resting on a circular silver wreath topped by a pair of crossed tulwars, points down surmounted by a blue enamel and silver crown.

Reverse Plain
Size 52mm x 60mm
Metal Silver and enamel
Ribbon As for Nishan-i-Shahi
Suspension Buckle and ring
Designer Possibly Arthus Bertrand of Paris
Naming Unnamed
Bars issued None

Class III

Breast Badge



Obverse A Maltese Cross with Knight's helm on the top ray, the whole surmounted by either an English crown or an Indian style coronet (both types seen). In the centre a shield with State coat of arms as described for Second Class. Around, a blue enamelled ribbon with the inscription PRO REGE ET PATRIA. A tulwar, point down pierces one side of the Cross.

Reverse Plain
Size 34mm x 45mm
Metal Silver and enamels

- Ribbon* 38mm: centre and edge white stripes (4mm) with two dark blue stripes (11mm) between and outer edges of dark blue (2mm). The ribbon in one version is suspended from a buckle pin
- Suspension* Ring
- Designer* Possibly Arthus Bertrand of Paris
- Naming* Unnamed
- Bars issued* None

186

DISTINGUISHED AND LONG SERVICE MEDAL

186a

(Civil)

Awarded for fifteen years service (silver) and twenty five years service (gold).



- Obverse* The full face bust of Jagatjit Singh wearing high necked embroidered tunic, jewel encrusted turban and robes of GCSI. Around the edge the inscription H.H THE MAHARAJA-I-RAJGAN JAGATJIT SINGH OF KAPURTHALA

- Reverse* Around the top the Urdu inscription *Jagatjit Singh Maharaja Rajgan Kapurthala* (His Highness Maharaja Jagatjit Singh of Kapurthala) On two lines in the centre, in English, AWARDED TO

- Size* 35mm

- Metal* Both gold and silver are known. The gold has hallmarks on the reverse.

- Ribbon* 38mm: centre and edge white stripes (4mm) with two dark blue stripes (11mm) between and dark blue outer stripes (2mm). The ribbon is suspended from a plain bar.

- Suspension* Ring and loop

- Designer* Not known

- Naming* Engraved capitals on the reverse under AWARDED TO plus the date of award

- Bars issued* Not known



186b

(Military issue)

Very similar to that described for civil except that the reverse also contains a crown and crossed swords engraved above the words AWARDED TO. The ribbon is similar except that it is 34mm wide and lacks the centre white stripe. The outer blue edges are 3mm and the central blue stripe 20mm.

It was not uncommon for some State employees to have been awarded both the military and civil versions, and to have worn them side by side.

187

DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL 1937

Jagatjit Singh, born in November 1872, acceded to the *gaddi* in September 1877 and was invested with full powers in 1890.



Obverse The full face bust of Jagatjit Singh wearing a high necked tunic with turban, sash (probably GCSI) and medals. In a surrounding border the inscription H.H. MAHARAJA JAGATJIT SINGH OF KAPURTHALA

Reverse An inscription on four lines. First, in Urdu, *Akal Sahai* (Blessings of God). Next, in Gurmukhi, *Ek Onkar* the Sikh beginning of prayer meaning God is One. Then in Persian *Jublee Ilmas* (Diamond Jubilee) and finally *Maharaja Jagatjit Singh Waliae Ryasat Kapurthala* (Maharaja Jagatjit Singh Ruler of Kapurthala State). Underneath, the dates 1937 (the Christian calendar) and 1994 (the Samvat era equivalent), being the year of the Jubilee

Size 33mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon 38mm: centre and edge white stripes (4mm) with two dark blue stripes (11mm) between and outer blue edges (2mm). The ribbon is suspended from a plain bar.

Suspension Ring and loop

Designer Not known. On one example the plain suspension bar has the initials O.R.R.,



possibly those of Messrs P Orr, Silversmiths of Bangalore, who produced some of these medals, though whether the original die was their design and manufacture has not been determined.

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None

CHAPTER 30

KISHANGARH

Area

858 square miles

Population

1931 - 85,744

The State was founded in 1594 by Kishan Singh, the second son of Maharaja Udai Singh of Jodhpur and came into a treaty relationship with the British in 1818. The ruler was entitled to a permanent salute of 15 guns.

Maharaja Yagyanarain Singh died on 3 February 1939 without an heir but left instructions that Kunwar Summair Singh of Zorawarpura be adopted, his succession being approved by the Viceroy and announced on 24 April 1939. Maharaja Summair Singh was born on 27 January 1929 and during the period of his minority the State was administered by a Council under the supervision of the Resident at Jaipur.

Only one medal has been traced to the State. It has not been formally identified though, given the date 5 June 1947 on the obverse, it is possible that it commemorates the assumption of full powers, Maharaja Summair Singh having by then achieved his eighteenth birthday five months earlier.

188

UNIDENTIFIED

*Obverse*

The State coat of arms (a shield with three semi towers supported by two "chevals" with a falcon above and scroll below. In the upper edge KISHANGARH and in the exergue 5 JUNE 1947

Reverse

Plain except for the initials P.B. at lower centre.

Size

24mm

Metal

Silver

Ribbon

Not known

Suspension

Ring

Designer

Not known

Naming

Unnamed

Bars issued Not known, probably none



CHAPTER 31

KOLHAPUR

Area

3,217 sq miles

Population

833,700

An important State in the Bombay area, the Maharaja of Kolhapur enjoyed a 19 gun permanent salute. The dynasty had been founded by Tarabai, wife of Shivaji's son Rajaram, who officiated as Regent on behalf of her own son after Rajaram's death in 1698. The ruler carried the high Mahratta honorific of *Chhatrapati Maharaj*. His Highness Shri Sir Rajaram Chhatrapati Maharaj II, *GCSI, GCIE, ruled from 6 May 1922 to 26 November 1940 when he died following a minor operation in Bombay. He had no male heir and so, on 18 November 1942, Maharani Tarabai adopted a one year old boy, naming him Shivaji. A Vidhan Sabha, or Council of Regency was established, but Shivaji V died in Bombay on 28 September, 1946, before he was five years old.

Maharaja Vikramsinharao Puar, KCSI, the Ruler of Dewas Senior, the only son of a Kolhapur princess and the grandson of Shahu Chhatrapati (1884-1922) made a claim to be recognised as heir. This was accepted by Maharani Tarabai, the Senior Maharani of Kolhapur, and her request to the Government of India to adopt him as heir was granted. Vikramsinharao abdicated from the Dewas Senior *gadi* on 23 March 1947 in favour of his son. On 31 March 1947 he acceded to the Kolhapur *gadi* taking the name Chhatrapati Shahji II, Hindupad Padshah (a title adopted by Shivaji, the founder of the dynasty) and during his regime responsible government was granted to the representatives of the people. On 1 March 1949 Kolhapur merged with Bombay and in 1962 Shahji, who had a distinguished war record in the Second World War, was gazetted a Major General in the Indian Army.

189

UNIDENTIFIED
possibly
CORONATION MEDAL



- Obverse* The bust of Chhatrapati Shahji II with the Devanagari inscription at top, *Chhatarpati Shahji II* (King Shahji II) and below *Hindupad Padshah* (the King of Hindus)
- Reverse* In the centre the sword of Shivaji (Bhawani) with the Devanagari legend *Karvir Rajya* (Kingdom of Karvir) at top, *Jai Bhawani* (Victory to Bhawani) in the centre, and *Je. Shu. 13 Raja Saka 274* (Jyestha Shukla 13 Raja Saka 274) below.
- Size* Circular 30 mm



<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	Only seen in a black and white photo, it was a light coloured ribbon with a pale centre stripe with, on each side, a dark stripe.
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring through loop
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

A miniature is known of this medal.

NOTE: Although the ruler's name is generally seen as Chhatrapati, the inscription on the medal reads Chhatarpati.

The date 274 is taken from the Raja Saka calendar. This dates from 6 June 1674 AD (Jyestha Shukla 13, 1731 Vikram Samvat) and therefore equates to 1948 AD, one year after his adoption as ruler was recognised by the Political Department and one year before he agreed to the merger of his State with Bombay. Nevertheless, a picture is known of the medal being worn by his son, Maharaja Krishnajorao Puar III of Dewas Senior and it seems likely, therefore, that the medal commemorates Shahji's accession to the Kolhapur *gadi*.

190

UNIDENTIFIED



<i>Obverse</i>	Bust of Shivaji, founder of Mahratta Empire, within a circle facing right. Above, a scroll with the Devanagari inscription <i>Shri Surya Kul Vanshi Dharam Rakshak</i> (Descendent of Surya Kul : Upholder of Dharma. Also translates as Of the Surya Dynasty, Defender of Religion). Below the bust on a scroll, the Devanagari inscription <i>Shri Shivaji Maharaj</i> (His Highness Shivaji). Behind the circle are two types of crossed fan and above an umbrella with the Devanagari inscription <i>Kolhapur</i> . Underneath the design a sword, pointing right, with the Devanagari inscription <i>Marathi Rajya Sausthapak</i> (Founder of the Mahratta Rule or Empire). On a scroll below the sword the Devanagari inscription <i>Jai Bhawani</i> (Victory to Bhawani). Around
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*Reverse*

the lower rim of the medal the Devanagari inscription *Rajkiya, Dharmik, Samajik, Swatantriyamokti* (Believer in duties relating to State, Religion, Social help and Independence)

Bust of Tara Bai, wife of Shivaji's son, Rajaram, within a similar design to that on the obverse. In the circle, above the bust, the Devanagari inscription *Shri Ikahwahar Vaushi Dharam Rakshak* (Descendant of Ikahwahar: Upholder of Dharma [Religion]) and *Shri Shivaji Sudha* (Wife of Shri Shivaji). Below, on a scroll, in Devanagari, *Maharani Tara Bai* (Her Majesty Tara Bai). On the sword below the design the inscription translating as Empire of Bold Warriors and on the scroll below that, the Devanagari inscription *Jai Bhawani* (Victory to Bhawani). Around the edge of the medal the Devanagari inscription *Rajkiya Dharmik Aane Samajik Swatantriyamokti* (Believer in duties relating to State, religion, social and Independence). Underneath the whole, in English, Pawaskar Baroda. (Pawaskar was an Indian manufacturer of medals).

<i>Size</i>	43mm
<i>Metal</i>	aluminium
<i>Ribbon</i>	Not known
<i>Suspension</i>	crude ring
<i>Naming</i>	Not known
<i>Bars issued</i>	Probably none

NOTE: On the reverse the inscription around the edge includes the conjunction *Aane* (and), whereas this is missing from the same inscription on the obverse. In fact it is not essential and could be deleted from the inscription without affecting its meaning.

CHAPTER 32

MANDI

*Area**1,139 sq miles**Population**1931 - 267,465*

Ranking equal sixth (with Sirmur) in order of precedence amongst the Punjab States, the families of Mandi and Suket both came from ancient Rajput lineage, the Mandials of the Chandar Bans tribe. Mandi was the junior branch, the two families having split in the thirteenth century. Ajbar Sen founded the capital of Mandi in 1527. From 1810 onwards Mandi was made to pay tribute to the Lahore Darbar, though during the First Sikh War, Raja Balbir Sen sympathised with the British side and in 1846 was formally recognised by them.

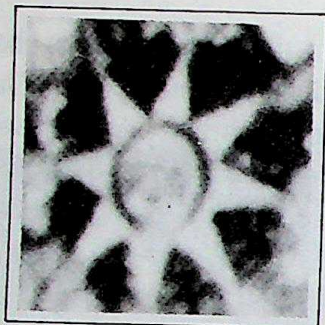
Balbir Sen died in 1851 and was succeeded by his four year old son, Raja Bijie Sen. His son, Kanwar Bhawani Singh, succeeded him as Bhawani Sen in 1897. He died in 1912 without an heir and so his nearest male relative, Mian Jogindar Singh, then a minor, was selected to succeed to the *gaddi* and was installed as Raja Jogindar Sen on 28 April 1913. He was invested with full powers on 13 February 1925. In February 1923 he married the only daughter of the Maharaja of Kapurthala. This family connection with Kapurthala may explain the unsolved question of the Grand Commander sash worn by the Raja of Mandi in photographs.

It has not been possible to confirm the details of Mandi awards. It seems certain that there was a **STATE ORDER** and a **SILVER JUBILEE MEDAL** and it is possible that there was also an **INSTALLATION MEDAL** and a **MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL**. The **STATE ORDER** supposedly had three classes and the ribbon was green with yellow edges.

Confusion sets in, however, with the apparent existence of another, and possibly more senior, order. On the Raja's **SILVER JUBILEE MEDAL** his effigy is shown wearing a sash that seems to correspond to the pattern of the **STATE ORDER** ribbon. Photographs taken on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebrations show other State officials wearing what seems to be the neck ribbon of this order, but the Raja, confusingly, is wearing something quite different. This is a sash very similar to that of the Kapurthala State Order, i.e., light coloured centre stripe and edges, with a dark colour in between. The photographs, though not allowing detailed analysis of the sash badge and breast star worn by the Raja, nevertheless show enough detail to discount this as being the Kapurthala State Order. Given the family connections, it would not be surprising if the Raja of Mandi had been given the Kapurthala award. By the same token it would not be surprising if he had taken the colours of his father-in-law's State order so that he could create a new order of his own. It is possible, therefore, that what he is shown to be wearing is a previously unrecorded Family Order of Mandi.

191

UNIDENTIFIED
possibly
FAMILY ORDER OF MANDI

Star

<i>Obverse</i>	An eight pointed star, possibly in white enamel, in the centre a circle with a picture surrounded by a dark enamel band. The star resting on a wreath with unidentified devices at the point of each ray (alternate devices).
<i>Reverse</i>	Not known
<i>Size</i>	Not known
<i>Metal</i>	Unknown, though with enamels
<i>Ribbon</i>	Sash colours unknown, but similar pattern to Kapurthala
<i>Suspension</i>	Not known
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Probably unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

Badge

<i>Obverse</i>	Apparently as for breast star, but smaller
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In the Silver Jubilee photographs the Raja is wearing a magnificently jewelled collar, but it is not known if this formed part of the order. It seems to be of a totally different design to that of the star and badge and is therefore not included here.

192

STATE ORDER

As previously mentioned, this is known primarily by its ribbon of green with yellow edges. The sash was 10 cms: 86mm centre and 7mm edge stripes; Second Class was 50mm: 44mm centre and 3mm edges; Third Class was 39mm: 34mm centre and 2.5mm edges. The only likely example seen so far appears in a photograph and is thought to be the Second Class (i.e., a neck badge). From the indistinct features of the photograph it would seem to be one seven-pointed star superimposed upon another. In the centre a bust, facing left (probably Raja Jogindar Sen), the whole surmounted by what may be a ceremonial umbrella. The ribbon seems to be suspended through a ring at the top of the umbrella.

193

UNIDENTIFIED
possibly
INSTALLATION MEDAL 1913

Known only by a ribbon, and even then there are conflicting opinions as to its identity. The ribbon is 32mm: red or reddish pink centre (16mm) edged by stripes of yellow (3mm), blue (2mm), yellow (3mm) or yellow/black/yellow (3mm/2mm/3mm). Some collectors refer to this ribbon as **JAIPUR MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL - MILITARY** but from enquiries in Jaipur it is known that this is incorrect. Other collectors refer to it as **MANDI JUBILEE MEDAL 1913**. There was no Jubilee in 1913 but it was in that year that Raja Jogindar Sen was installed on the *gaddi*. It has not been proven that the ribbon belongs to Mandi, or if it does, that it belongs to 1913, but if the answer to both is proved to be in the affirmative then it must be an **INSTALLATION MEDAL**.

194

SILVER JUBILEE MEDAL 1938

The Jubilee was celebrated in April 1938.



Obverse A circular medal with the effigy of Raja Jogindar Sen facing left. He wears a high necked tunic with KCSI neck badge and star, two other stars and a medal (unidentified), a jewelled necklace and a sash, possibly of the State Order (see above). Around the top the Devanagari inscription *Shri Raja Jogindar Sen Bahadur* (His Highness Jogindar Sen Bahadur)

Reverse The State coat of arms with the Devanagari inscription *Riyasat Mandi* (Mandi State) below. Around the top the Devanagari inscription *16 Baishakh 1970 16 Baishakh 1995* (Vikram Samvat dates equating to 1913-1938 A.D.)

Size 38mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon 38mm: white with red edges (2mm) and a 2mm green stripe 4mm from each edge

Suspension Ring and loop

Designer Barton

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None



UNIDENTIFIED
possibly
MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

Known only by a ribbon, and even then there are conflicting opinions as to its identity. The ribbon is 32mm: green centre (16mm) edged by stripes of yellow (3mm), blue (2mm), yellow (3mm) - a similar design, therefore, to the possible Installation Medal 1913 (see above). Some collectors refer to this ribbon as **JAIPUR MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL - CIVIL** but from enquiries in Jaipur it is known that this is incorrect. Other collectors refer to it as **MANDI SILVER JUBILEE MEDAL 1938** but the ribbon described under the entry for that medal is believed to be the correct one. It has not been proven that the ribbon belongs to Mandi, but it is included as a possible identification.

CHAPTER 33

MYSORE

Area

29,528 sq miles

Population

6,557,000 (1931)

A Salute State of 21 permanent guns, Mysore was one of the premier Princely states occupying an area roughly the size of France. It takes its name from *mahesh*, a buffalo, and *asura*, a demon; signifying the slaying of the buffalo demon by Mysore's patron goddess Chamundi. The 'modern' history of the State is traced, according to legend, to the late 14th Century when a feudal chief of the time wandered off into the forest in a fit of mental aberration, leaving his wife and daughter without protection. A neighbouring chief demanded the daughter as a bride, threatening Mysore if his demand was refused. Two young passing Rajput brothers proclaimed themselves her champion and routed the would-be invader, annexing his land. The elder brother married the daughter and established the new Mysore dynasty. In fact the history of the State is better chronicled from the late 16th Century, from which time it was governed by a succession of Hindu dynasties. Between 1734 and 1761 it was technically ruled by Immadi Krishna Raja Wodeyar II although in effect it was ruled by the Regent, Devaloy Devaraja. In 1761 Haidar Ali, the Muslim commander of the Hindu raja's army, forced the raja to retire and took over the administration of the State himself, although he never actually ascended the throne.

Haidar Ali fought and lost the First Mysore War with the British (1766-69) as a result of which he signed a treaty of alliance with the British at Fort St George on 3 April 1769, but this did not suppress his dislike of British involvement in the region and relations remained strained. In February 1778 France signed a treaty of commerce and friendship with the American Rebels during the War of the American Revolution and subsequently pursued a number of territorial engagements with the British in various areas, particularly the Caribbean. In India Haidar Ali sided with the French and in July 1780 invaded the Carnatic. Although defeated the following year, Haidar Ali remained a problem until his death in December 1782 when he was succeeded by his son, Tipu, who then declared himself Sultan.

Tipu Sultan continued his father's active opposition to the British, with French aid, until the Treaty of Versailles officially ended French involvement, but it was not until March 1784 that a treaty was signed ending the war with Tipu Sultan. Six years later Tipu was on the move again, invading the allied State of Travancore and bringing a British retaliation which ended with a further defeat for Tipu at Seringapatam, in February 1792, and another treaty signed the following month. In 1799 it was learnt that Tipu had entered into yet another treaty with the French and so a further British force was assembled. Seringapatam was first besieged and then assaulted on 4 May 1799 and Tipu was killed in the fighting.

Following the death of Tipu the British chose a child of the original Hindu ruling family ousted by Haidar Ali and placed him on the masnad (throne) as Krishnaraja Wodiyar III, although the State was initially ruled in his name by a regent, Dewan Purnaiya. Krishnaraja assumed full powers in 1810. Sir Barry Close had been appointed Resident in Mysore, subordinate to the Governor of Madras, but in 1831 Krishnaraja was deposed for maladministration and pensioned off, the administration of Mysore State being taken over directly by the British. This was entrusted to two Commissioners subordinate to

the Madras Government; one being appointed by that Government and the other by the Government of India. The post of Resident was continued as it was considered desirable that political relations of the pensioned-Maharaja with the British Government should be retained in his hands. The Resident was placed under the direct orders of the Government of India. In 1834 one of the Commissioner posts was abolished and the administration of Mysore given to a sole Commissioner, the first being Lt Col (later Sir) Mark Cubborn. In 1843 the office of Resident was abolished by Lord Ellenborough, its duties being discharged by the Commissioner. In 1867 the Commissioner was designated Chief Commissioner but this post was abolished in 1881 when Mysore was returned to the rule of the Wodiyar dynasty in the form of Chamrajendra Wodiyar. The post of Resident was revived at this time.

Krishnaraja Wodiyar IV was born in 1884 and succeeded his father to the throne in 1895 at the age of eleven. Until reaching his majority his mother acted as Regent. Krishnaraja Wodiyar IV was widely regarded as one of the most enlightened, educated, talented and sophisticated of rulers. He died in August 1940 aged 56, widely mourned, not only by his own people but by admirers around the world. Having no children of his own he was succeeded by his nephew, the son of his brother.

196

GANDABHERUNDA ORDER (BADGE OF THE DOUBLE EAGLE)

Established in 1892 by Maharaja Sir Chamrajendra Wodiyar Bahadur, the Order was used to confer titles in recognition of:

1. Meritorious service rendered by public servants
2. Voluntary acts of private philanthropy for a public cause
3. Service rendered to the cause of learning

The name of the title to be conferred was specially selected in respect of each individual award to denote the particular service being recognized. Each title was accompanied by a jewel, or badge, of the Order and Khillats (a pair of shawls, lace turban, etc.) whose value would vary according to the class of the title. Originally there were three classes of titles, A, B, and C, the jewel or badge being:

- A. Precious stone chain with padaka (pendant)
- B. Pearl chain and padaka
- C. Gold chain and padaka

and a fourth class, D, which carried with it a gold bangle rather than the badge of the Order.

The padaka, or badge, consisted of the royal emblem, the two-headed bird (the mythological Gandabherunda) with wings displayed, all within a wreath open at the top, from the points of which were attached the chain to pass around the neck. The body and wings of the bird and the leaves of the wreath were composed of brilliants of red, white and green, or diamonds, depending on the class.

In 1940, possibly after the death of Krishnaraja Wodiyar IV, it was decided that the old four divisions no longer met the requirements of the day and so new classes were created as follows:

Class B. Created in 1941, the titles associated with this new class were above the old

C class but below the old B class. Some holders of the old C class were promoted to this new B2 class and it subsequently became regularly awarded.

Special Class. Created in 1942, the titles of this class, *Pradhanasiromani* (Prime Minister) and *Amatyasiromani*, (Chief Minister) were considered to be higher than class A titles. There were only two awards within this class.

A1, A2, B1, C1 and C2. Created in 1944 by splitting classes A, B and C. With the 1941-created class B becoming B2 the titles of the Order therefore became:

- A1. Reserved for Dewans, Chief Minister etc.
- A2. Chief Justice
- B1. Ministers, Judges of High Court, important Sirdars
- B2. Heads of Departments
- C1. Significant donations to charities etc.
- C2. Proficiency in fine arts, donations to charities
- D. Scholars and musicians

A total of 304 Gandabherunda titles were awarded between 1892 and 26 January 1950, when the award of titles and medals by the State was abolished. With the exception of the two Special Class titles mentioned above, there was no strict correlation of title to class, and the same title could cover several classes. As already mentioned titles were decided on an individual basis to denote the area of activity which was being recognized. Some examples were:

- Rajasabhabhushana (Ornament of Royal Society)
- Rajadharmapravina (Expert in Royal duties)
- Rajakaryaprasakta (Expert in Royal works)
- Rajadharmaprasakta (Knowledgeable in Royal duties)
- Dharmarathanakara (Precious Gem of Religion)
- Dharmapravratha (Promoter of Religion)
- Panditha Rathnam (Gem of Learning)

Originally the titles were conferred from the Throne on the European Durbar Day during the Dasara festivities, but latterly special Durbars were held. From 1942 the titles were conferred during the Birthday festivities of the Maharaja.

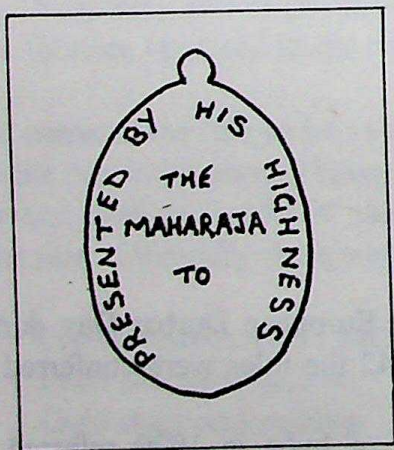
A letter from the Resident of Mysore to the Government of India in 1920 referred to the Gandabherunda Order being given to officers of the Mysore Imperial Service Lancers. In their cases the badge of the Order was suspended around the neck by a ribbon of green, white or dark red, according to the class awarded.¹

Under the general title of the Gandabherunda Order the **MYSORE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER** was instituted in 1913, to be awarded in four classes. It is believed that no actual medal was ever issued, nor ribbon designed, but during the First World War a number of awards were promulgated in the Mysore Durbar Orders as follows:

- 1st Class - 2
 2nd Class - 13 (including 2 promotions from 3rd Class)
 3rd Class - 8
 4th Class - 31

In fact it transpired that all State soldiers given a British award during the War, with the exception of those rewarded for service in India, were gazetted to one of the classes of the Medal.

197

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL

- Obverse* The double-headed bird (eagle) of Mysore. Above a scroll with MYSORE. Below a scroll with FOR PUBLIC SERVICE.
- Reverse* Around the edge the inscription PRESENTED BY HIS HIGHNESS and in the centre THE MAHARAJA TO. A space below this was apparently intended for the name of the recipient.
- Size* Oval, 27mm by 37mm
- Metal* 22 carat gold. Issued in two weights equivalent to 2½ and 1½ sovereigns.
- Ribbon* 32mm wide. One source says green but the example shown here was fitted with a maroon ribbon.
- Suspension* Simple gold loop to straight bar suspender with leaf pattern. A similar bar at the top of the ribbon
- Designer* Sri Lalitha Jewellery Co, Bangalore City
- Naming* Not known
- Bars issued* None

Awarded to persons who have contributed towards public and charitable objects sums ranging from about Rs 10,000 - Rs 25,000, or who have rendered signal public service in other ways by serving on public bodies etc. Awarded by His Highness in open Durbar along with *Khillats* of a lesser value than in the case of titles.

198

THE MAHARAJA'S POLICE MEDAL

<i>Obverse</i>	The head of HH the Maharaja
<i>Reverse</i>	Name of recipient
<i>Size</i>	Not known. Circular
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	25mm; dull pink (19mm) with white edges (3mm)
<i>Suspension</i>	Not known
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Style not known
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

Instituted on 21 August 1919 under Mysore Durbar Order No G.4348-9--Pol 168-18-4 "to encourage conspicuous devotion to duty and the performance of acts requiring exceptional courage and skill on the part of Police Officers"²

199

SCOUT SERVICE MEDAL

Apparently a similar design to the Public Service Medal (oval with the double-headed eagle on the obverse and name of the recipient on the reverse) suspended from a 32mm green ribbon.

MISCELLANEOUS

200

MAHARAJA'S DURBAR MEDAL

On 4 June 1902 the Dewan proposed gold and silver medals be given to those attending the Maharaja's Durbar, to incorporate the head of the Maharaja on the obverse and the Arms of Mysore with date on the reverse. The Government of India advised the Resident that it could not approve the issue and the idea was dropped on 21 June 1902.

201

GREAT WAR MEDAL 1914-1919

During the First World War the State fielded the Mysore Imperial Service Lancers and the Mysore Transport Corps for active duty. The former saw service in Egypt and Palestine while the latter served in Mesopotamia.

On the conclusion of the War the Dewan of Mysore wrote to the Resident with a proposal from the Maharaja that a War Medal be given by him to those of his Imperial Service Troops who had served outside the state. The Resident, Mr H V Cobb, forwarded the proposal to Simla on 20 October 1919 with his support.

The Government of India was not at all enthusiastic about the idea and caused a reply to be sent in December 1919, of which the following is an extract:

As the Maharaja's Imperial Service Troops who have been on service will be entitled to the British War Medal and the Victory Medal, the Military authorities are of the opinion that there are no military reasons for encouraging His Highness to grant an additional medal. Further, if Mysore were permitted to grant such a medal, it would be very difficult to resist similar claims from other Indian Princes whose forces have rendered quite as good a service as those of Mysore..... There would probably be no objection to the grant of a war badge in the form of a brooch with no ribbon, so that it would be quite distinct from a war medal.... You will see..... that a suggestion was made some years ago in the case of Kashmir, that the services of units which had taken part in the Hunza Nagar expedition should be commemorated by the addition of a collar badge to their uniforms. Possibly this idea might commend itself to His Highness, if he does not like the idea of a brooch without ribbon to be worn on the breast"³

The Maharaja was obviously not impressed by the Government's answer. His private secretary wrote to the Resident on 8 January 1920 saying that the relationship of the troops to the Maharaja reflected a "special sentiment of loyalty" and protesting that there was no reason why every State in India which had contributed Imperial Service Troops should not be given the privilege of conferring similar decorations. He went on to say that the Maharaja proposed granting a war medal which would be sufficiently distinctive, "with an appropriate inscription and ribbon if desired.....[to] be worn on the left breast".⁴

The original design of the medal is shown at Figure 1, with an enlargement of the obverse at Figure 2. It will be seen that the obverse carries a representation of Britannia standing, holding a Union Flag in her left hand and a shield, also bearing the Union Flag, in her right. Lying beside her is a lion and massed behind her are Indian cavalry and a bullock cart, no doubt intended to represent the Lancers and Transport Corps respectively. Around the top is the inscription "The Great War 1914-1919" and underneath "Mysore Imperial Service Troops" on three lines. The reverse of the proposed medal carries the State coat of arms and the inscription "By Command of H.H. The Maharaja of Mysore". No design of the ribbon is shown, nor is reference made to an actual design in any of the surviving correspondence. Although some collectors have exhibited a piece of ribbon as the "Mysore Victory and Peace Medal 1914", a multi-coloured ribbon, this has now been proved to have belonged to a masonic jewel.

On 15 August 1920 the King approved the design of the medal but stipulated that it was to be given only to Indians and not to British officers and men. This decision was communicated to the State a few days later.

On 27 January 1921 the Maharaja's private secretary again wrote to the Resident saying that the Maharaja wished to alter the design of the proposed medal. This new design (Figure 3) carried an effigy of the Maharaja on the obverse with the inscription "Maharaja Sri Krishnarajendra Wadiyar IV" around the edge. The reverse showed two troopers holding crossed lances beneath which was the State coat of arms. Around the top was the inscription "The Great War" and underneath the dates "1914-1918".

The design was forwarded to the Government of India who replied on 24 February 1921 that, with regard to the initial design :

"sanction was asked for and accorded on the grounds that the proposed medal

was 'of special design, readily distinguishable from British medals'. The substitute merely reproduces.... ordinary features of a British war medal. It is also open to the objection that it contains no allusion to the association of Mysore and British Forces"⁵

This was communicated to the State as a result of which, on 23 September 1921, the Maharaja's private secretary informed the Resident that "....the idea of presenting medals has been given up" ⁶

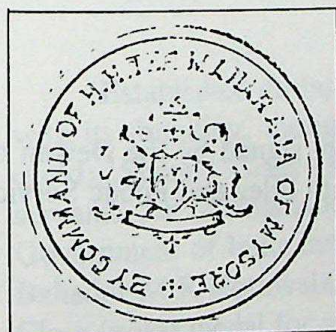


Figure 1

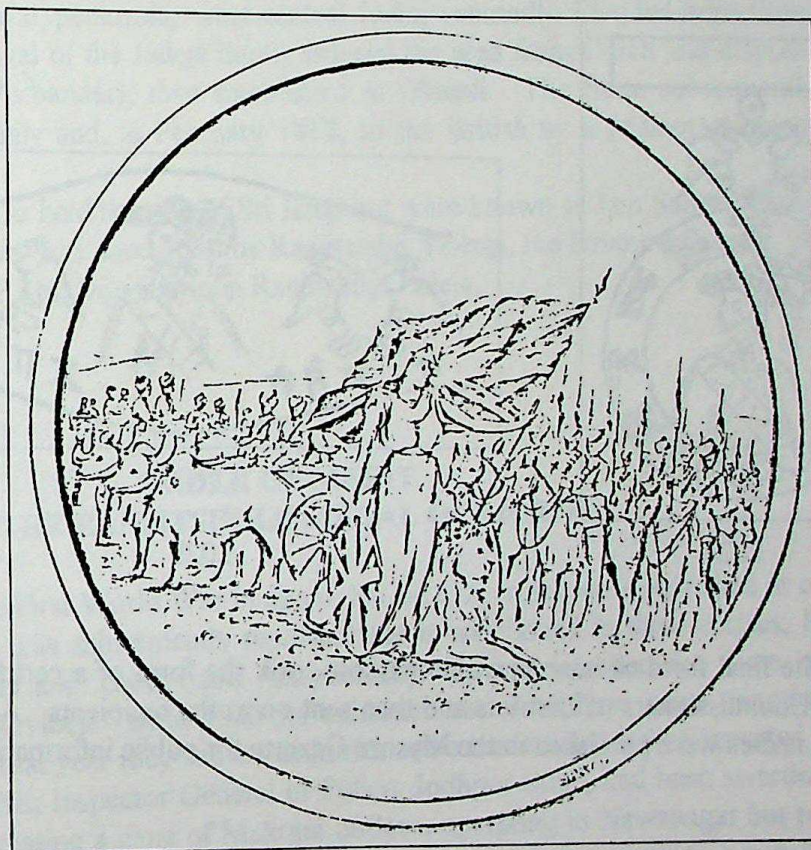


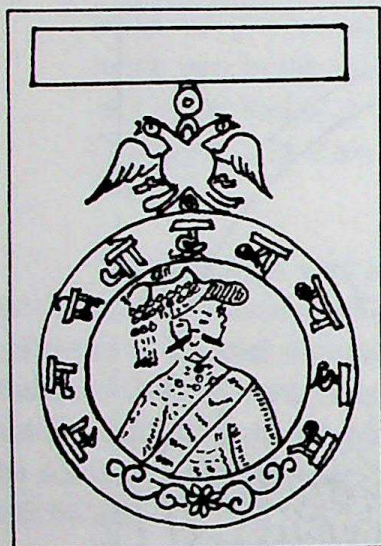
Figure 2



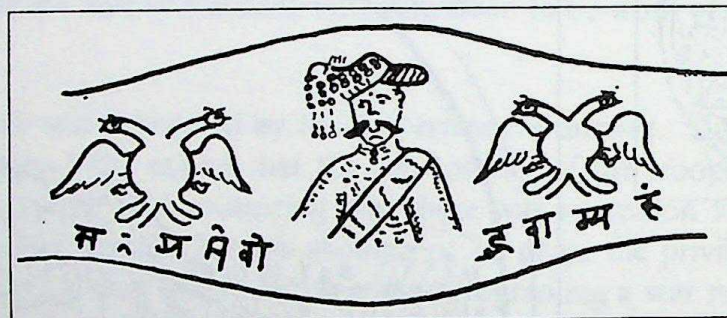
Figure 3

UNIDENTIFIED

The two sketches at 202a and 202b were copied from Residency Records Mysore (IOLR R/2 (37/354)). They remain unidentified. One is clearly intended as a breast badge but the other may have been a brooch, wrist badge or neck badge. It is not known if either was ever issued or if they were both initial designs only, subsequently dropped as were other ideas. The inscription reads *Satyamevo dravamyaham* (May Truth Prevail)



202a



202b

The final form of honour within Mysore took the form of a certificate, signed by the Dewan or Deputy Commissioners of Districts and then sent on to the recipients. As with titles and Public Service Medals, names were published in the Mysore Gazette for public information.

Notes:

1. Resident of Mysore to Government of India, 23 December 1920. Residency Records of Mysore: IOLR R/2 (37/354).
2. IOLR R/2 (37/354)
3. Lt Col R E Holland CIE, Political Secretary to the Government of India, to Mr H V Cobb, Resident at Mysore, 2 December 1919. Residency Records, Mysore: IOLR R/2 (36/350), Mysore War Medal.
4. R H Campbell CIE, Private Secretary to Maharaja of Mysore to H V Cobb, 8 January 1920. *ibid.*
5. Foreign and Political Department to Resident's Office, Mysore, 24 February 1921. *ibid.*
6. Campbell to Resident's Office, 23 September 1921. *ibid.*
7. Illustrations in *ibid.*

CHAPTER 34

NAWANAGAR

Area

3,791 sq miles

Population

1931 - 402,192

A state in the Kathiawar peninsula, west-central India, reputedly founded sometime between 1535 and 1540 when Jam Raval of the Jadeja family entered the area from Cutch and dispossessed the ancient family of Jathwas (Porbandar), then established at Ghamli. The State subsequently became tributary to the Gaekwar family and, in February 1812, to the British by a Memorandum of Articles (submission).

The rulers of Nawanagar held the title of Sri Jamji but were known as Jam Saheb. Jaswant Singh ruled from 1894-1907 when he was succeeded by Ranjitsinhji Vibhaji, the famous cricketer. He in turn was succeeded on 2 April 1933 by Digvijaysinhji Ranjitsinhji Jadeja.

203

ORDER OF MERIT THE RANJITSINHJI MEDAL OF MERIT

Established during the First World War in about 1914-15, no rules were published in connection with its founding, though it was subsequently reported that it was issued in three classes; First Class (gold), Second Class (silver) and Third Class (unspecified). It was intended for State subjects or servants for distinguished services. Until 1935 its existence seems to have gone unnoticed by the Government of India but in that year they caused enquiries to be made when it was reported that Khan Bahadur M R Kothwala, MBE, Inspector General of Police, Jodhpur State, had been awarded the First Class (gold) medal for suppressing a gang of Makrani outlaws operating in Nawanagar but rounded up in Jodhpur. It transpired that his was the only example of the award being given to a non-Nawanagar State subject, but the award had been made in ignorance of the fact that Kothwala was a British subject (and therefore barred by the existing rules from receiving State awards). The Jam Saheb had, however, sought the concurrence of the Jodhpur Darbar to the award. Although the decision had been taken by Ranjitsinhji Vibhaji the award was actually presented by his successor at his wedding in March 1935.

The Dewan of Nawanagar apologised to the Government for the oversight, but made the point that the awards were medals only, not orders as such. In reply, the Government asked if the Nawanagar Darbar would propose altering the nomenclature of the decoration, as well as seeking retrospective approval for the award to Kothwala. In January 1936 the Darbar decided that the name of the decoration awarded to Kothwala would be changed to **THE RANJITSINHJI MEDAL OF MERIT** and that they would seek permission from the Government for him to wear it. This was granted in May 1936.

Records traced to date suggest that numbers awarded were very low; 1919 - 7 gold, 1 silver, 1 Certificate of Merit; 1930 - 1 award (unspecified) and 1932 - unspecified numbers of Second and Third Class awards to members of the Nawanagar State Forces for long and faithful service.



- Obverse** The full face portrait of Ranjitsinhji Vibhaji. Above, the inscription ORDER OF MERIT and below, NAWANAGAR STATE
- Reverse** Two standing figures (a knight and justice) and four seated (angel with child, beauty with dog). Below, on four scrolls, LOYALTY, PHILANTHROPY, CHARITY, FIDELITY. The gold version contains hallmarks
- Size** 34mm
- Metal** Gold, silver and possibly bronze (Third Class)
- Ribbon** 38mm: Central grey band (20mm) with, on either side, white, black and pink stripes (each 3mm)
- Suspension** Ring and eye
- Designer** Not known
- Naming** Not known
- Bars issued** Not known. Probably none

A miniature version in gold is known.

CHAPTER 35

PATIALA

*Area**5,942 sq miles**Population**1931 - 1,625,520*

Located in the Punjab, in northwest India, the history of Patiala State is closely entwined with that of the Sikh Empire. In 1526 Emperor Babur had granted the *chaudrayat* (office of revenue collector) for that area of country south-east of Delhi to Baryam. From Baryam was descended Chaudri Phul who received a *firman* from Emperor Shah Jehan continuing him in this office. From Phul's eldest son descended the families of Nabha and Jind, and from his second son the family of Patiala.

Guru Nanak (1469-1539), the father of Sikhism, had aimed at striking a balance between Hinduism and Islam. He had been succeeded by nine other gurus who, as well as laying the foundations of a religious community, had also had to struggle against Mughal oppression. Taking to the hills, they had become an effective guerrilla force, particularly under the guiding philosophy of the tenth and last guru, Gobind Singh.

Installed on the *Gur Gaddi* on 12 November 1675, and formally invested on 29 March 1676, he died on 7 October 1708. In about 1687 Dilawar Khan, who governed the Punjab on behalf of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb, fought a number of unsuccessful battles against the Guru and some of his allies amongst the Hill Rajas. When these failed to have the desired effect Aurangzeb sent his son, Prince Muazzam, later to become known as Shah Alam Bahadur, to bring the Hill Rajas and the Guru under control. The Prince in turn despatched one of his officers, Mirza Beg, to wreak vengeance on the Hills and, according to legend, Guru Gobind Singh, then at Anandpur, sent his message '*Tera gharu mera asay*' (Your home is my refuge) by way of a plea for help to the progenitors of the Phulkian house. Their response is claimed to have saved the Guru's life, who blessed the Phulkian house as his own, and the motto was adopted in memory of this.

With Gobind Singh's death in 1708 the Khalsa, the Sikh brotherhood, emerged as the controlling body of Sikhism. As the Sikhs grew in strength so they scored a series of military victories, culminating in the recapture of Lahore from the Persian army of Ahmad Shah Durrani in 1764, after which the Sikh chieftains sub-divided into twelve equal *misl*s or clans. The leader of one of these, Baba Ali Singh, a grandson of Chaudri Phul, had established his capital at Barnala but in 1764, as the twelve *misl*s went their own ways, he established his new capital at Patiala, which offered better scope for expansion and contact with the outer world.

The Patiala territory was largely extended by Baba Ali Singh's son, Amar Singh (1765-1781), and grandson Sahib Singh (1781-1813), but not without threat from Ranjit Singh of Lahore, by now clearly the "first among equals". By a treaty concluded with the British in 1809 Ranjit Singh had been confirmed as ruler of those areas occupied by him south of the Sutlej, but the treaty had restricted him from seeking any further territorial expansion north or west of the river. In the same year a Proclamation of guarantee against encroachment from Lahore was signed with the Cis-Sutlej states, Patiala, Jind and Nabha. The rulers of Patiala became Maharajas in 1810, during Sahib Singh's rule, and Patiala troops helped the British on a number of early occasions, including the Gurkha War of 1814-15, and actions against Tek Singh in Kaithal State in 1843. As with other Cis-Sutlej states, considerable help was given

during the time of the Mutiny in 1857 and later, in 1879, Patiala troops qualified for the British-issued Afghan Medal.

During the rule of Sahib Singh's great great grandson, Rajindra Singh (1876-1900), the British sought to regulate the local State armies by the introduction of the Imperial Service Troops scheme, later changed to the Indian State Forces Scheme, but it was Rajindra Singh's son, Bhupendra Singh (1900-1938), who developed a passion for military trappings and it was he who instituted most of the orders, decorations and medals of Patiala.

Dates on Patiala coins reflect the Hejira (i.e. Mohammedan) era until the rule of Narindar Singh (1845-1862 A.D.) when they changed to the Vikrama Samvat (V.S.) era and it is this dating which appears on Patiala medals. Vikrama Samvat dates from 18 October, 58 B.C.

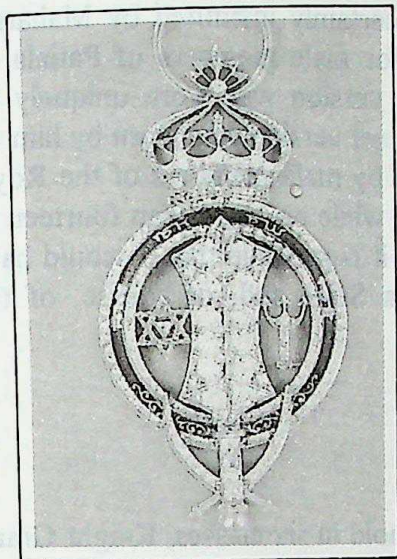
NISHAN-I-PHUL ROYAL FAMILY ORDER

Collar

<i>Obverse</i>	Twenty-four crossed Kirpans with star and crescent between, alternately linked with twelve blue and cream enamel flowers and ten gold quoits each encompassing a dagger, the chain joined by a crown.
<i>Reverse</i>	Not applicable
<i>Size</i>	152cm overall length
<i>Metal</i>	Gold (15.7 ozs troy) and enamel
<i>Ribbon</i>	Not known
<i>Suspension</i>	The crown has a swivel suspension ring for the badge
<i>Designer</i>	Not known. Manufactured by Garrard & Co., Calcutta and London
<i>Naming</i>	None
<i>Bars Issued</i>	Not applicable

(See the dust jacket of the book for a coloured illustration)

Badge



Obverse A dagger above two crossed Kirpans dividing a trident and six-pointed star. On a blue enamel garter within two diamond bands, the Gurmukhi inscription *Tera gharu mera asay* (Your home is my refuge), in gold, the whole surmounted by a four-arch diamond and ruby set crown.

Reverse Plain

Size 85mm x 42mm

Metal Gold, silver mountings, enamel and numerous fine quality diamonds.

Ribbon Not known

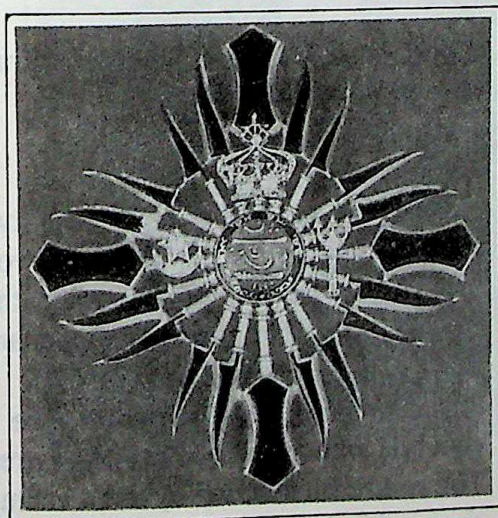
Suspension Gold ring suspender for attaching to Collar

Designer As for Collar

Naming None

Bars issued Not applicable

Star



Obverse Four large daggers, each quadrant set with four smaller knives, all radiating from a central medallion with diamond and ruby set trident, star and crescent and crown applique. The medallion has an enamel band with, in gold, the Gurmukhi inscription *Tera gharu mera asay* (Your home is my refuge).

Reverse Plain

Size 95mm

Metal Gold, enamel, diamonds and rubies

Ribbon Not known

Suspension Pin at back

Designer As for Collar

Naming Not applicable

Bars issued Not applicable

Another set is known consisting of a Star and Badge, identical in design to those described, but in gold with blue enamel edging and inscriptions. Smaller versions of the badge alone are known, measuring 65mm x 35mm, with the central part of the dagger, the main part of the band, and the base of the two crossed Kirpans in blue enamel, the remainder in gold. It seems to have been designed to be

hung as a breast badge.

Until March 1988 the existence of this Order was unknown to collectors, the Family Order (see below) being referred to as NISHAN-I-PHUL. No statutes have been found for the Order and it is not known for certain to whom it was awarded, though it was almost certainly instituted by Maharaja Bhupendra Singh. It is believed that the Order was only intended for male members of Patiala or related Royal Families and it is possible that the diamond encrusted version was worn uniquely by Bhupendra Singh during grand ceremonies, while the gold and blue enamel version was worn by him on less formal occasions. The smaller breast badge may have been worn by male members of the Royal Family below the Maharaja. Both Star and Badge sets may be unique, while no more than fourteen of the breast badges are known. Although no ribbon has been identified, it is possible that it would have been dark blue with gold stripes, these being the colours of Patiala State and, of course, of the decorations themselves.

THE FAMILY ORDER

Awarded in recognition of personal services to the Royal Household in six classes, Knight Grand Cross; Knight Commander; Commander; Officer; Member 5th Class; and Member 6th Class. Numbers awarded in any class are not known. The Gurmukhi inscription which appears on all the devices reads *Pachhmi Padshah Phooli Phali Raha Phul Ki Bari* (May the House of Phul prosper for ever).

Knight Grand Cross

Collar

Obverse

Twin fine gold chains linking a central blue circle with crossed lances and penants, two crossed leaf motifs surmounted by lotus flowers in red enamel, two crossed sword motifs, two Katars within laurel wreaths, and two bow and arrow devices within wreaths the whole supporting a Badge pendant of a five-pointed star with central medallion depicting two figures, one standing and one seated beneath a tree. The centre surrounded by a red enamel circle with the Gurmukhi inscription of the Order, all surmounting a circular green enamel laurel wreath and surmounted by a three-tier crown.

Reverse

Plain, though the Badge pendant carries a serial number

Size

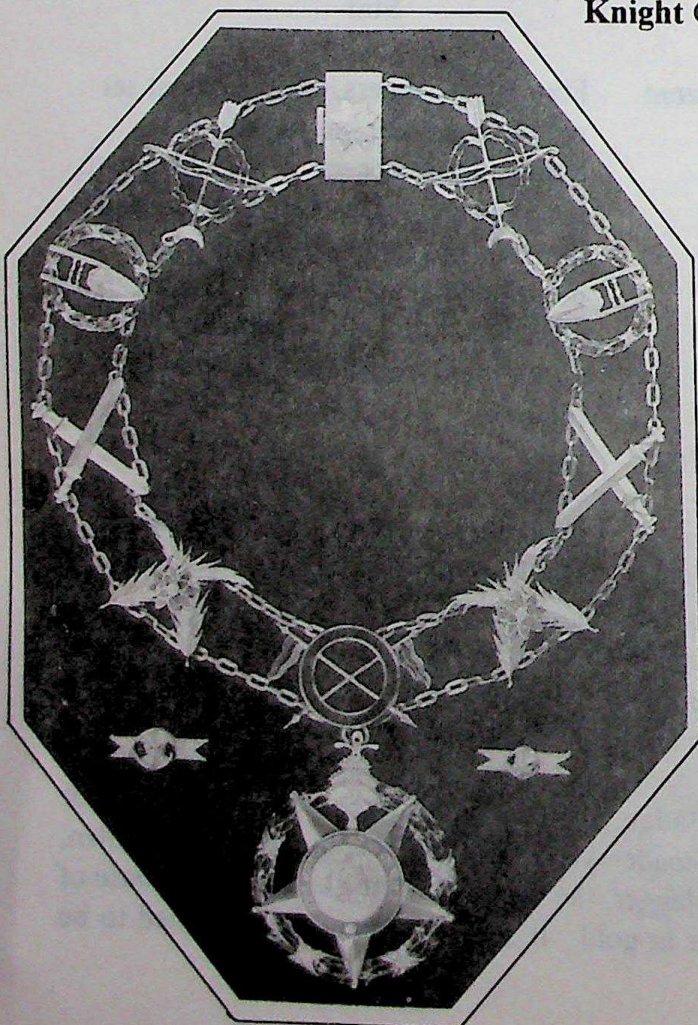
Collar overall length 52 cms Badge

Metal

Silver gilt and enamel

Ribbon

Sash - 10cm golden yellow with 9mm



light green edges and 8mm central red stripe. A narrower sash 65mm wide is known - possibly intended for Ladies or young men.

Suspension Badge pendant attached to collar by plain ring

Designer Manufactured by Spink & Son, London, circa 1930

Naming Not applicable

Bars issued Not applicable

Sash Badge

Identical in design to the Badge pendant except that it is all silver-gilt but for the red enamel band around the central medallion. Size 75mm x 62mm. Serial numbered

Star

A circular 'flaming sun' with central medallion depicting the two figures surrounded by red enamel band with the inscription of the Order. Emanating from the band, fifteen red enamel rays and, at the top, the three-tier crown. In silver-gilt and red enamel. Size - 80mm. Serial numbered on reverse

Neck Badge

Identical to the Badge pendant. Suspended from a riband collar 48mm golden yellow with 4mm green edges and 4mm red central stripe.



The inclusion of a Neck Badge as well as a Collar is unusual, but there is no doubt that it was intended to form part of the set.

Knight Commander**Badge**

As for the Badge pendant of the Knight Grand Cross but size is 75mm x 64mm. Serial number on reverse. The riband collar is 48mm wide.

Star

A pentagon of rays with concave sides surmounted by the five-pointed star and central medallion depicting two figures, as in the Badge pendant of the Knight Grand Cross, but without the green enamel laurel wreath. Between the top two rays of the star, a three-tier crown and between each of the other points a sword, hilt to the centre. Size 75mm x 64mm



two thirds size

Commander**Neck Badge**

Identical to the sash badge of the Knight Grand Cross but smaller - 60mm x 50mm. Serial number on reverse. The riband collar is 48mm wide, as for Knight Commander.

**Officer****Breast Badge**

Identical to the neck badge of the Knight Grand Cross but smaller - 45mm x 38mm. The ribbon is 32mm wide, 3mm green edges and 2mm central red stripe. The ribbon also carries a raised rosette.

Member 5th Class**Breast Badge**

As for the Officer's badge but all in silver-gilt. The ribbon is as for Officers but without the rosette.

Member 6th Class**Breast Badge**

As for Member 5th Class but the badge in silver. The ribbon is identical.

A miniature device appeared in a London dealer's catalogue in January 1993, though the class was not specified. Certainly a miniature ribbon has been known for some time, suggesting that miniatures were manufactured for evening wear.

206

**THE ORDER OF KRISHNA
(YADUVANSH MANYA MANDAL)**

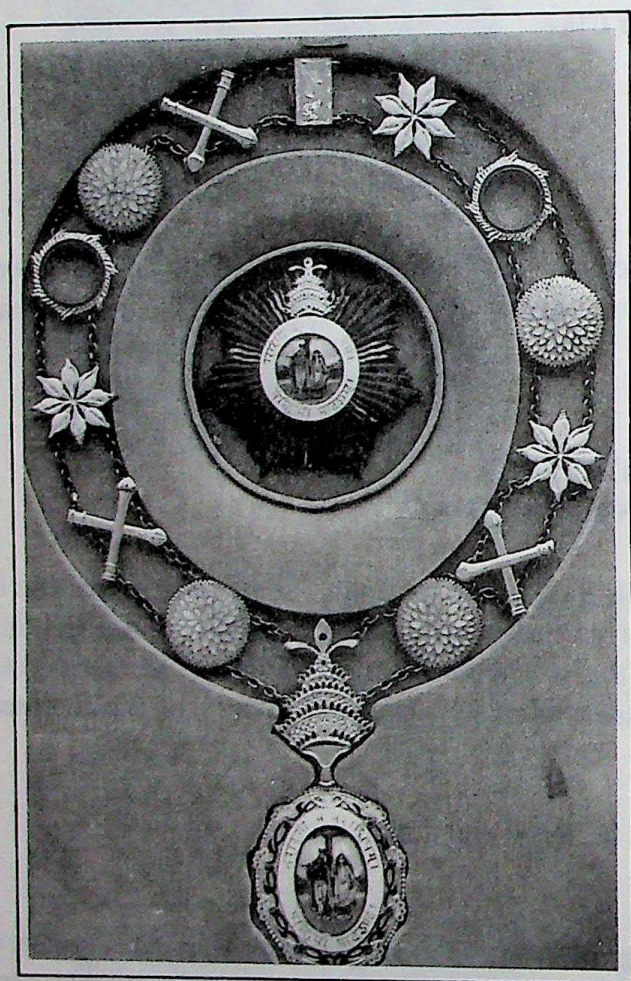
The award was instituted in about 1936 by Maharaja Bhupendra Singh. Some sources say that it was intended for award to Hindus and other dignitaries but the Statutes of the Order do not support this religious distinction, although it seems safe to assume that it had some basis in practise. Neither do the Statutes confirm the alternative title, Yaduvansh Manya Mandal. Indeed, Article 1 of the Statutes states:

"It is ordained and enjoined that this Order shall be styled and designated in all proceedings The Order of Krishna".

The Order consisted of the Sovereign and Grand Master and one class of members. Ordinary Members were limited to five in number and were selected from foreign Sovereigns and their consorts, reigning Princes and their heir apparent, Members of the State, Honorary Members and foreign persons. Numbers of Honorary Members were unlimited.

Collar*Obverse*

Links formed of the four emblems of Krishna, namely; a conch, a quoit, a lotus and a mace linked together by a gold chain. The Badge pendant, oval in shape, with an enamelled picture of Krishna playing the flute to Radha. Around the top of the oval band the Sanskrit inscription *Nara Ranga Chai Naradhipam* (The Bestower of



<i>Reverse</i>	Plain
<i>Size</i>	Collar - overall length 64cms. Badge 70mm x 58mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver-gilt and enamel. Earrings of Krishna and Radha in diamonds
<i>Ribbon</i>	see Sash Badge
<i>Suspension</i>	Not applicable
<i>Designer</i>	Manufactured by Spink and Son, London, circa 1936
<i>Naming</i>	Not applicable
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not applicable

Sash Badge

Identical to the Badge pendant but without the three-tier crown of Patiala. The sash was 10cm wide, plain orange.

Star

The figures of Krishna and Radha within the Motto, surmounted by the Patiala crown, the whole resting on a star of seven points, each consisting of five blue and three silver alternate rays. The earrings of Krishna and Radha were of diamonds. Size - 80mm

When in morning dress a rosette with gold bow was worn. Although the Statutes make no mention of a sash 64mm wide, nevertheless such a sash is known. Similarly a Chain is known with

slightly smaller, more petite emblems on it. Given the reference above to consorts of foreign Sovereigns it is assumed that the smaller sash and Chain were intended for Ladies.

Officers of the Order wore the lesser badge of the Order with Motto around the neck on a riband collar two inches wide. Above the badge was the symbol of office;- the Chancellor, two keys saltirewise; the Secretary and Registrar, an open book with quill pens saltirewise.

No miniatures are mentioned in the Statutes but one is known to exist. It consists of the badge of the Order, less the Patiala crown, and measures 30mm by 37mm, suspended from a ribbon 33mm wide. This example was, however, among the personal decorations of the late Maharaja Bhupendra Singh and may have been made especially and solely for him.

207

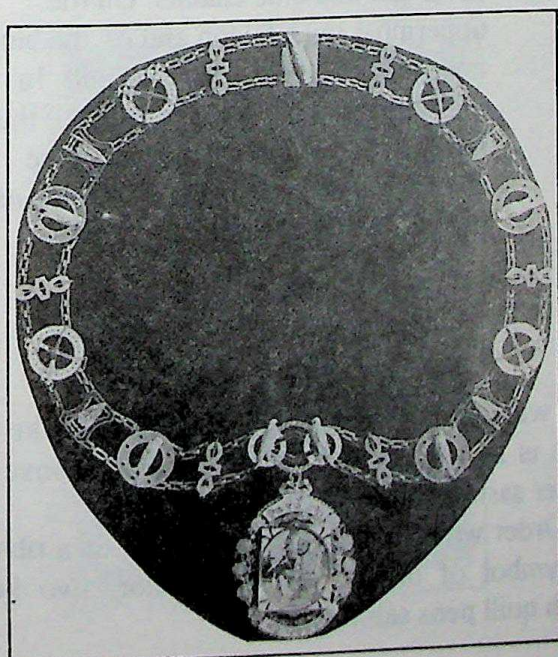
THE ORDER OF THE HOLY SAINT GURUGHAR MANYA MANDAL

The award was instituted in about 1936 by Maharaja Bhupendra Singh. Some sources say that it was intended for award to Sikhs and other dignitaries but the Statutes of the Order do not support this religious distinction, although it seems safe to assume that it had some basis in practise. Neither do the Statutes confirm the alternative title, Gurughar Manyal. Indeed, Article 1 of the Statutes states:

"It is ordained and enjoined that this Order shall be styled and designated in all proceedings The Order of The Holy Saint".

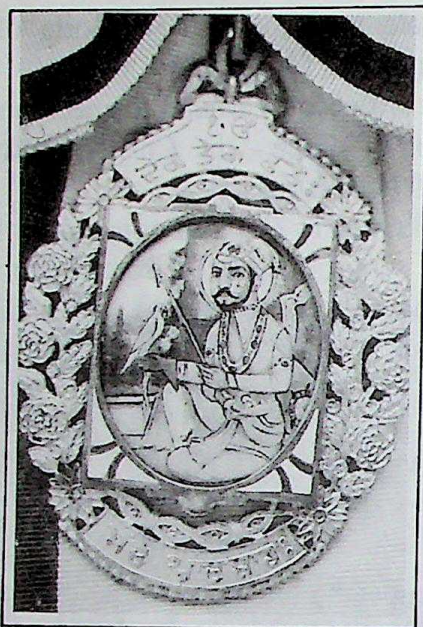
The Order consisted of the Sovereign and Grand Master and one class of members. Ordinary Members were limited to five in number and were selected from foreign Sovereigns and their consorts, reigning Princes and their heir apparent, Members of the State, Honorary Members and foreign persons. Numbers of Honorary Members were unlimited.

Collar



Obverse

Gold chain link formed of the four emblems of the Holy Saint, Guru Gobind Singh, namely, a riband pierced with an arrow (six), a dove on a wreath (four on gilt bands and a double device linking the Badge pendant), a katar (four), and a pair of crossed swords on a wreath (four). While this description is taken from the Statutes, it has to be said that in reality the doves on the Collar look more like hawks. The Badge pendant, oval in shape with a central portrait of the Holy Saint holding an arrow and falcon. Above, a scroll with the Gurmukhi (Punjabi) inscription *Ek Onkar. Deg, Tegh, Fateh* (God is one. Grace, Power, Victory).



Sash Badge



Star

Below, a scroll with the Gurmukhi inscription *Sache Padshah* (The True King).

<i>Reverse</i>	Plain.
<i>Size</i>	Collar - overall length 62cms. Badge pendant 75mm x 55mm.
<i>Metal</i>	Silver-gilt and enamel
<i>Ribbon</i>	see Sash Badge
<i>Suspension</i>	Badge pendant suspended from collar by silver-gilt triple bow
<i>Designer</i>	Manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Not applicable
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not applicable

Sash Badge

Identical to the Badge pendant except that only the central portrait of the Holy Saint is in enamel. The remainder in silver-gilt. The sash was 10cm wide, bright yellow with 6mm blue stripe 3mm from each edge.

An eight-pointed star, alternate rays in silver-gilt and blue enamel. On the uppermost ray a falcon and on the blue rays, crossed arrows in silver-gilt. In the centre an enamelled portrait of the head of the Holy Saint within a blue enamel garter containing the Motto of the Order. Size - 82mm.

When in morning dress a rosette with gold bow was worn. Although the Statutes make no mention of a sash 64mm wide, nevertheless such a sash is known. Given the reference above to consorts of foreign Sovereigns it is assumed that the smaller sash was intended for Ladies.

Officers of the Order wore the lesser badge of the Order with Motto around the neck on a riband collar two inches wide. Above the badge was the symbol of office;- the Chancellor, two keys saltirewise; the Secretary and Registrar, an open book with quill pens saltirewise.

No miniatures are mentioned in the Statutes but one is known to exist. It consists of the Badge of the Order 31mm by 43mm, suspended from a ribbon 33mm wide. This example was, however, among the personal decorations of the late Maharaja Bhupendra Singh and may have been made especially and solely for him.

208

THE ORDER OF MERIT NISHAN-I-IFTIKHAR

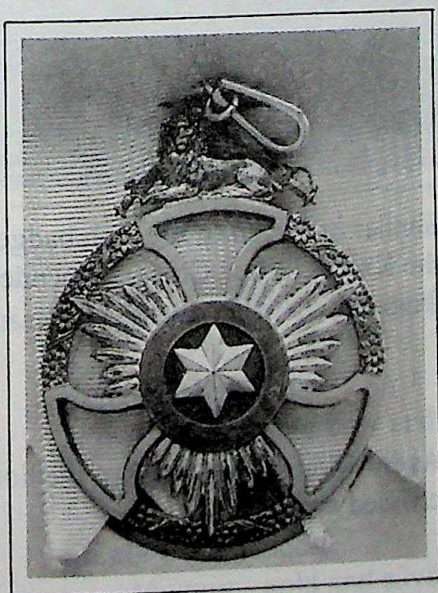
The Order was instituted by Maharaja Bhupendra Singh but the date of its creation has not been established. There were two divisions, Military and Civil, distinguished by the addition of a lion with crossed swords on the Military badges and minor differences in the Statutes.

Both divisions consisted of the Sovereign and four classes of Members; First Class or Knight Grand Cross, limited to five in each division; Second Class or Knight Commander, limited to five in each division; Third Class or Commander, limited to seven in the Military division and fifteen in the Civil; and Fourth Class or Officer, limited to ten in the Military division and twenty in the Civil. Those eligible were foreign Sovereigns and their consorts, reigning Princes and their heir apparent, Members of the State and foreign persons.

The Motto of the Order appears in both Gurmukhi (Punjabi) and Devanagari script within the Garter on each device and reads *Sarva Shreskari Sewa* (For Supreme Service).

The Grand Master and Knight Grand Cross

Sash Badge Military



- Obverse* A gold star of six points on a blue ground within a garter of green bearing the Motto. From the garter three light blue enamel arms with silver rays within the angles all resting on an outer circle of lotus flowers; above, a lion and crossed swords.
- Reverse* Plain
- Size* 72mm x 55mm
- Metal* Silver, silver-gilt and enamel
- Ribbon* 10cms wide, red in the centre and watered to orange/yellow at the edges. A version is also known 64mm wide suggesting either a ladies sash (and therefore of the civil division only) or a young Prince's sash (and therefore possibly of the military division)
- Suspension* Metal loop

Indian Princely Medals

Designer Manufactured by Spink and Son,
London
Naming Not applicable
Bars issued Not applicable

Civil

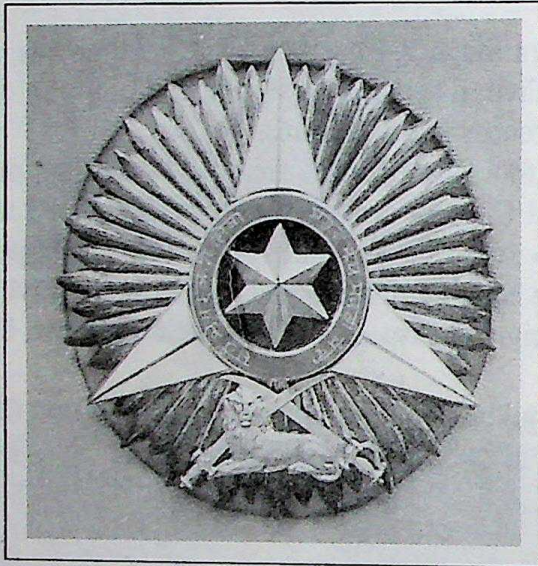
As for Military but without the lion and crossed swords. Size 58mm.

Star Military

A six-pointed gold star on a blue ground within a garter of green enamel bearing the Motto resting on a star of three points in white, the whole resting on a circle of silver rays 72mm in diameter. Below the three-pointed white star a lion and crossed swords.

Civil

As for Military but without the lion and crossed swords.



Knight Commander

Neck Badge Military

Similar in design to the sash badge of the Knight Grand Cross, suspended from a 5cms wide riband.

Civil

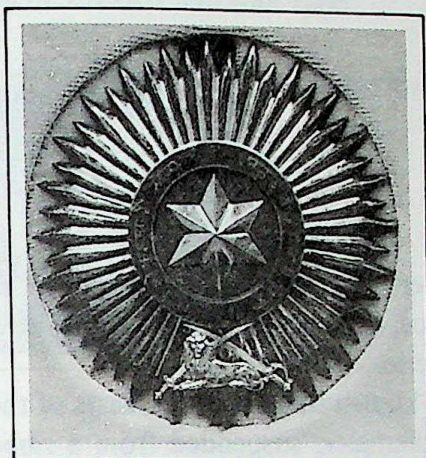
As for Military but without the lion and crossed swords.

Star Military

Similar in design to that worn by Knight Grand Cross except that the three-pointed white star was deleted. Size 60mm.

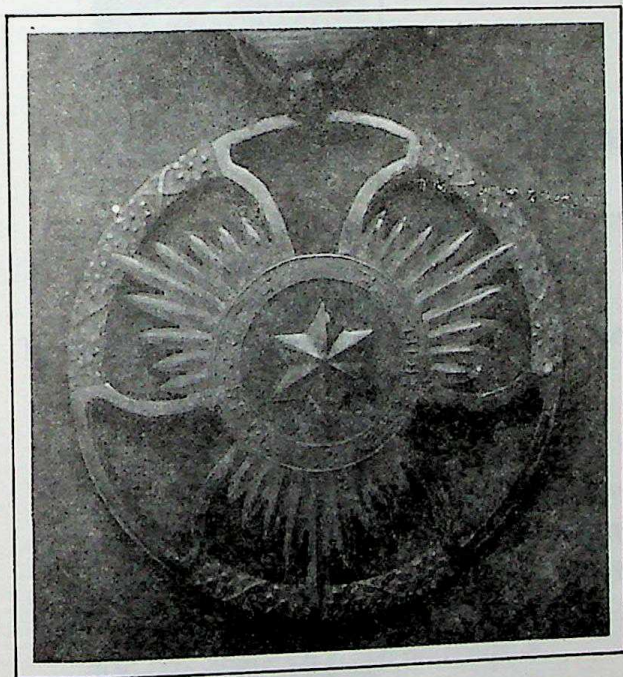
Civil

As for Military but without the lion and crossed swords.



Commander

A breast badge similar in design to the Knight Commanders' neck badge, but the central star rests on a silver-gilt ground instead of enamel. Size - 52mm x 43mm, suspended from a riband of the Order 32mm wide with a rosette of the same colours attached.



Officer

A breast badge similar in size and design to that for Commander but all silver-gilt suspended from a riband of the Order 32mm wide and without the distinction of a rosette.

Civil Version

Rosettes were worn with morning dress as follows:

Knight Grand Cross;

Military - gold bow and crossed swords

Civil - gold bow and crescent

Knight Commander

Military - gold and silver bow and crossed swords

Civil - gold and silver bow and crescent

Commander

- Military - silver bow and crossed swords
Civil - silver bow and crescent

Officer

- Military - no bow, with crossed swords
Civil - no bow, crescent

Officials of the Order wore the lesser badge of the Order with Motto around the neck by a riband 51mm wide. Above the badge was the symbol of the office;- Chancellor, two keys saltirewise; the Secretary and Registrar, an open book with quill pens saltirewise.

No miniatures are mentioned in the Statutes but one is known to exist. It consists of the Military version of the badge of the Order and measures 38mm in diameter, suspended from a ribbon 32mm wide. This example was, however, among the personal decorations of the late Maharaja Bhupendra Singh and may have been made especially and solely for him. Additionally a miniature ribbon, 18mm wide, is known.

MEDAL FOR BRAVERY

- Obverse* The head of a roaring lion within a circle, the whole surmounted by the three-tier Patiala crown.
- Reverse* Plain. Possibly intended for the name of the recipient
- Size* 54mm x 37mm
- Metal* Silver
- Ribbon* 33mm: brown with 3mm red edges
- Suspension* ring through loop behind crown
- Designer* Possibly made by Janardhan Singh & Bros., Moga, Punjab, though the suspension bar is by Spink and Son, London
- Naming* Not known - possibly intended for reverse
- Bars issued* It has not been possible to determine if bars were intended for issue.

It is not known how many of these medals were ever issued, nor to whom they might have been awarded. It may be that personnel other than military would have been eligible. A miniature version of the medal 25mm x 17mm exists.

With a few exceptions, which are separately described, the obverse of the remaining Patiala medals can be divided into four types:



Type A.

A full face portrait of Maharaja Bhupendra Singh as a young man wearing a robe, a necklace of six strings of pearls, and a turban decorated with pearls and jewels. Around the edge the Gurmukhi inscription *Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Shri Bhupendra Singh Mohinder Bhai Kul Bhushan* (King of Kings, His Highness Bhupendra Singh Mohinder Bhai, Jewel of the Dynasty)



Type B.

A full face portrait of Maharaja Bhupendra Singh as an older man wearing military uniform, decorations and medals and turban with large badge. Inscription as for Type A.



Type C.

Similar to Type B but with Maharaja Bhupendra Singh facing right.



Type D.

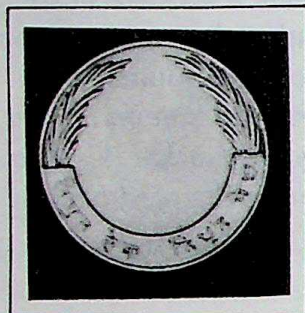
Maharaja Yadavindra Singh facing left wearing civilian dress, decorative necklace and turban decorated with pearls and plume. Around the edge the Gurmukhi inscription *Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Shri Yadavindra Singh Mohinder Bhai Kul Bhushan* (King of Kings, His Highness Yadavindra Singh Mohinder Bhai, Jewel of the Dynasty)

During the reign of Bhupendra Singh the Court language was Urdu, although there are a number of instances in which Gurmukhi (Punjabi) script is used in the inscriptions, though they occasionally reflect Persian phrases. Yadavindra Singh subsequently introduced Punjabi as the Court language.

224

210

MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL
BHUPENDRA SINGH (A.D. 1900-38)



<i>Obverse</i>	Type B.
<i>Reverse</i>	Around the upper half two leaf fronds meeting at top centre. Around the lower half a scroll with the Gurmukhi and Devanagari inscription <i>Nipum Sewa</i> (Meritorious Service)
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	33mm. Orange with 3mm green edges and two central green stripes, each 3mm wide and 3mm apart
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Not known
<i>Bars issued</i>	Not known but probably none

Somewhat confusingly, pictures in the official inventory of Orders produced by the State in the mid-1930s have the ribbons of this medal and the Police Medal transposed. There can be no doubt, however, from the inscriptions on the medals which is for Meritorious Service and which is for the Police.

211

YADAVINDRA SINGH (A.D. 1938 - Independence)

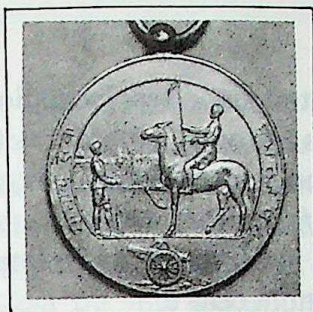
As for previous version except Type D obverse.

A miniature medal was issued for both awards.

212

GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL
BHUPENDRA SINGH (A.D. 1900-38)

<i>Obverse</i>	Type B.
<i>Reverse</i>	An infantry soldier and a mounted cavalry trooper facing inwards. Below, a field gun. Around the rim a band with inscription in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi, <i>Samanaya Sewa</i> (General Service).



<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm: 3mm yellow, 5mm blue, 15mm red, 5mm yellow, 3mm blue
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Not known. Possibly intended to be around rim
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

Sometimes written as Samanya Seva. This medal, which was not issued during the reign of Yadavindra Singh, had a miniature version. It is not clear under what circumstances the medal would have been issued. Although Patiala units frequently served with the British Army on Imperial duty, there were no such excursions in the early part of the twentieth Century until the First World War, and a separate medal was issued for that. It does not seem likely that its award would have been made retrospective to cover service in, for example, the Tirah campaign of 1897-98.

213

GREAT WAR MEDAL 1914-18



<i>Obverse</i>	Type B.
<i>Reverse</i>	Within an open wreath crossed lances above a field gun and the inscription in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi <i>Mahayudh</i> (Great War) and the date, in Gurmukhi, 1970-75 (1914-19 A.D.)
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm watered rainbow effect of red centre merging to yellow and, on the left, green to red edge; on the right green to blue edge
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Not known. Possibly intended to be around rim
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

During the First World War the Patiala Imperial Service Lancers, composed of 605 men in four squadrons, served in Egypt, Palestine and Mesopotamia. The 1st and 2nd Patiala Infantry combined for the duration of the War to form the Patiala Imperial Service Infantry and also served in Egypt and Palestine. It is assumed that all soldiers who saw service with these units would have received the medal, therefore somewhere in the region of 1200 - 1500 were probably awarded. A miniature medal was issued.

226

214

AFGHANISTAN MEDAL 1919

<i>Obverse</i>	Type C.
<i>Reverse</i>	Within a central disc a representation of mountains. Around, a border with the inscription in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi <i>Afghanistan</i> with the date 1975 (1919) in Gurmukhi and a lotus flower at bottom centre.
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm: 3mm red, 10mm yellow, 3mm green, 3mm blue, 10mm yellow, 3mm red
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Not known. Possibly intended to be around rim
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

After service in the First World War both the Lancers and Infantry moved to Afghanistan for service in the Third Afghan War. Although entitled to the British-issued India General Service Medal (1908) with clasp 'Afghanistan N.W.F. 1919', the Maharaja obviously felt the need to express his own appreciation of their service. As with the Great War Medal it is assumed that somewhere in the region of 1200 - 1500 would have been awarded. A miniature medal was issued.

215

PUNJAB MEDAL 1919

<i>Obverse</i>	Type C.
<i>Reverse</i>	Within a central disc a shield bearing five vertical wavy lines, the whole surrounded by an open wreath. Around, a border with the inscription in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi <i>Punjab</i> and the date in Gurmukhi 1975 (1919 A.D.)
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm: yellow with 5mm red edges
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London

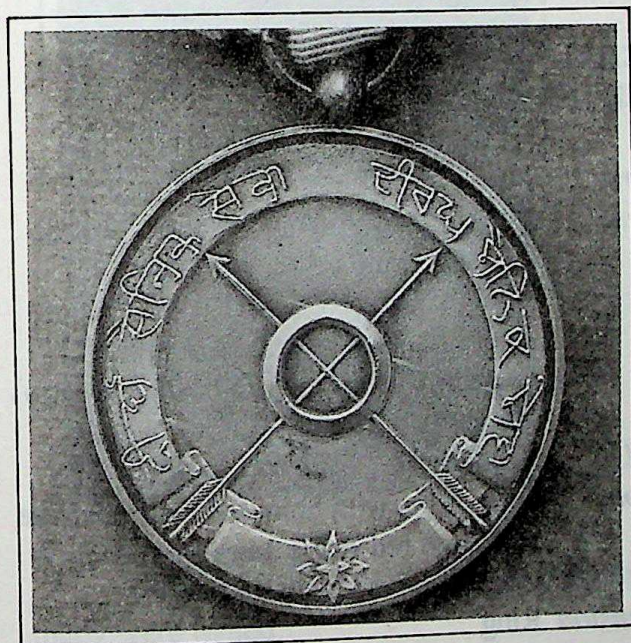
Naming The example seen was unnamed.

Bars issued None

The disturbances in the Punjab in 1919, including the massacre at Amritsar, are well enough known. It is inconceivable that Patiala troops would have played any part in this affair, although they would, of course, have been available in their own State for peacekeeping duties. Even so, it is an odd award for the State to have created and sources in Patiala are unable to throw any light on it. Given the absence of the Lancers and Imperial Service Infantry in Afghanistan it is not clear how many might have qualified for this medal. It may have been awarded to Patiala police, though at least one medal is known in a group to a soldier. A miniature medal was issued.

216

LONG SERVICE MEDAL (MILITARY)
BHUPENDRA SINGH (A.D. 1900-38)



Obverse Type B.

Reverse A central disc pierced by crossed arrows. Around, a border with the inscription in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi *Dhiragh Sainik Seva* (For Long Military Service)

Size 37mm

Metal Cupro-nickel

Ribbon 32mm: red with 2.5mm stripes of blue and green, and green and blue 7mm from each edge

Suspension Ring

Designer Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London

Naming Not known. Possibly intended to be around rim

Bars issued None

The qualifying period of service for the award of this medal is not known. Nor is it known how many were issued. A miniature medal was provided.

217

LONG SERVICE MEDAL (MILITARY)
YADAVINDRA SINGH (1938-Independence)

Obverse Type D.

Reverse A central disc pierced by crossed arrows. Around, a border with the



inscription in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi *Dhiragh Sainik Seva* (For Long Military Service)

<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm, equally divided yellow and blue
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Not known. Possibly intended to be around rim
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

The qualifying period of service for the award of this medal is not known. Nor is it known how many were issued. Again, a miniature medal was provided.

POLICE MEDAL BHUPENDRA SINGH (1900-38)



<i>Obverse</i>	Type B.
<i>Reverse</i>	Around the upper half two leaf fronds meeting at top centre. Around the lower half a scroll with the inscription in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi <i>Praja Raksha</i> (Defence of the Country)
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	34m: Blue with 5mm red central stripe and 2mm red stripe 3mm from each edge
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Not known. Possibly intended to be around rim
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

As previously mentioned, somewhat confusingly, pictures in the official inventory of Orders produced by the State in the mid-1930s have the ribbons of this medal and the Meritorious Service Medal transposed. There can be no doubt, however, from the inscriptions on the medals which is for Meritorious Service and which is for the Police. A miniature medal was issued.

219

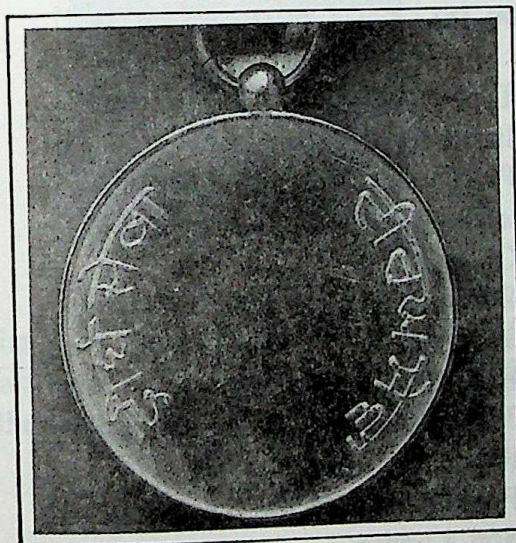
POLICE MEDAL
YADAVINDRA SINGH (1938-Independence)

Identical to the Bhupendra Singh
version except the obverse is Type D.

A miniature version of the Yadavindra Singh medal is known. Given the similarity of reverse with the Meritorious Service Medal, and the confusion over ribbons, it is possible that the former was restricted to the Military, and that this medal was the Police equivalent.

220

LONG SERVICE MEDAL (CIVIL)
BHUPENDRA SINGH (1900-38)



<i>Obverse</i>	Type A.
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain except for the inscription around the edge in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi <i>Dhiragh Seva</i> (Long Service)
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Métal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm divided equally blue and yellow
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Not known. Possibly intended to be around rim or on the plain reverse
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

The qualifying period of service for the award of this medal is not known. Nor is it known how many were issued.

221

LONG SERVICE MEDAL (CIVIL)
YADAVINDRA SINGH (1938-Independence)

<i>Obverse</i>	Type D. In addition the medal is surmounted by the three-tier crown of Patiala
<i>Reverse</i>	Identical to the Bhupendra Singh version.
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver

<i>Ribbon</i>	Identical to the Bhupendra Singh version but the colours have been reversed (yellow/blue)
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Not known. Possibly intended to be around rim or on the plain reverse
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

The qualifying period of service for the award of this medal is not known. Nor is it known how many were issued. A miniature version is known.

222

**HOUSEHOLD MEDAL - BHAKTI AUR SEVA
BHUPENDRA SINGH (1900-38)**



<i>Obverse</i>	Type A
<i>Reverse</i>	In the centre the three-tier crown of Patiala. Around, a band with the inscription in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi <i>Bhakti Aur Seva</i> (For Devotion and Service).
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Both silver and bronze issues
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm. Orange with 2mm blue edges
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Possibly manufactured by Spink and Son, London
<i>Naming</i>	Probably intended to be unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

A miniature version is known of both the silver and bronze medal.

223

**HOUSEHOLD MEDAL - BHAKTI AUR SEVA
YADAVINDRA SINGH (1938-Independence)**

Identical to the Bhupendra Singh version except that the obverse is Type D.

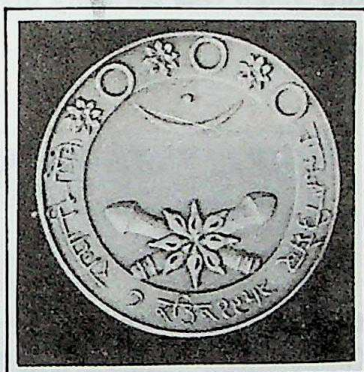
224

RAJYABHISHEKH MEDAL
ACCESSION (CORONATION) OF MAHARAJA BHUPENDRA SINGH - 1900



Obverse Type A. The whole surmounted by the three-tier crown of Patiala though a version is known without the crown.

Reverse Within a central disc a crescent at the top and crossed batons with lotus flower at the bottom. Around the rim three circles and lotus flowers at the top and the inscription around the bottom in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi *Rajyabhisekh 7 Kattak 1958* (Coronation 19 October 1900 A.D.)



Size 37mm
Metal Silver
Ribbon 32mm plain orange
Suspension Ring
Designer Not known
Naming Probably unnamed
Bars issued Probably none

The translation of the date on the reverse is an approximation and does not actually fit the known historical dates. *Kattak* (*Kartika*) runs from approximately 13 October to 12 November in the Christian calendar, so 7 Kattak equates to 19/20 October. According to the historical references, however, Bhupendra Singh succeeded his father in November 1900.

225

RAJYA SHASAN
ASSUMPTION OF FULL POWERS OF MAHARAJA BHUPENDRA SINGH
1910



Obverse Type A. Versions are known both with and without the three-tier crown of Patiala.

Reverse Within a central disc a crescent at the top and crossed batons with lotus flowers at the bottom. Around the rim three circles and lotus flowers at the top and the inscription around the lower edge in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi *RajyaShasan 25 Asuj 1966* (Reign 7 October 1910 A.D.)

<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm; Orange with 5mm yellow edges
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Probably unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

A miniature version is known

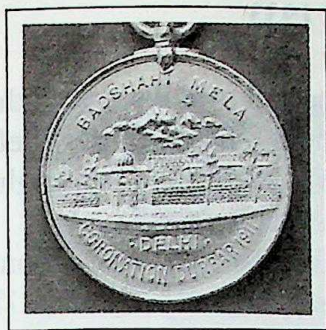
Again the translation of the date on the reverse is an approximation and does not actually fit the historical record. *Asuj* runs approximately 13 September to 12 October in the Christian calendar so 25 *Asuj* equates to 7 October. According to the historical record Bhupendra Singh was formally invested with full powers on 3 November 1910.

BADSHAHI MELA DELHI DURBAR 1911

This may not have been a Patiala-issued medal, though until recently the only example seen had been at Patiala. One has since appeared at auction in England. When King George V and Queen Mary visited India for the Coronation Durbar of 1911 there was much celebration. In Delhi itself a large ceremonial parade was held followed by religious services but, because so many people had to be excluded from the grounds of those events, Sir Louis Dane developed the idea of a great popular assemblage below the Delhi Fort where Their Majesties could appear at a *Darshan* (a sight), a ceremony that had not been used for some three hundred years. Combined with this *Darshan* it was proposed to hold a great popular fair and this was known as *Badshahi* or *Shahinshahi Mela* (the Imperial Fair). A special medal was struck afterwards and presented to those who had assisted in the undertaking, as well as to some 12,000 representatives from districts and States. The Maharaja of Patiala, whose troops provided a large contingent for the Durbar celebrations at Delhi, was a Vice President of the Badshahi Mela Committee and it seems likely that some of his staff would have been involved in the preparations. Certainly some Patiala staff received the British-issued Delhi Durbar medal and one example is known of that medal and the Badshahi Mela medal being worn side by side.



<i>Obverse</i>	The conjoined busts of King George V and Queen Mary crowned and robed facing left. Around the edge the inscription in English "T.M. King George V and Queen Mary"
<i>Reverse</i>	A palace. Above in English BADSHAHI MELA and below DELHI CORONATION DURBAR 1911.
<i>Size</i>	38mm



<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm; divided equally into 13.5mm blue (left) and red (right) separated by a 5mm white central stripe.
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

A miniature version of this medal is known.

227

JASHANE NUQRAI SILVER JUBILEE MEDAL 1925



<i>Obverse</i>	A central disc with crescent at the bottom and lotus flowers above. Superimposed on this, two oval shaped discs with the bust of Bhupendra Singh as in Type A (left) and Type B (right) representing a 25 year time span.
<i>Reverse</i>	Within a central circle the inscription in Devanagari, Gurmukhi and Urdu <i>Jashane Nuqrai</i> (Silver Jubilee Celebration). Around the edge an inter-twined rope.
<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm; Orange with 2mm white stripes 5mm from each edge.
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Manufactured by Janardhan Singh & Bros., Moga (Punjab)
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

A miniature version is known

234

228

YUVRAJ (CROWN PRINCE) MARRIAGE 1933

Obverse Two connected oval discs with the bust of Bhupendra Singh (Type B) (left) and Yadavindra Singh (full face) (right) with flowers between the discs.

Reverse A central disc with the inscription in both Devanagari and Gurmukhi *Yuvraj Vivah* (Marriage [of] Crown Prince, and in Gurmukhi the date *Phagan 1989* (February/March 1933 A.D.). Around the edge a border of flowers and leaves.

Size 37mm

Metal Silver

Ribbon 32mm; Yellow with two 3mm blue stripes in the left half and two red in the right half.

Suspension Ring

Designer Believed to have been manufactured by Janardhan Singh & Bros., Moga (Punjab)

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None

A miniature version of this medal is known

229

**RAJYABHISHEKH
ACCESSION (CORONATION) OF MAHARAJA YADAVINDRA SINGH
1938**



Obverse The full face bust of Yadavindra Singh in uniform with decorations and medals and a crown above his turban. Around the edge the Gurmukhi inscription *Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Shri Yadavindra Singh Mohinder Bahadur* (King of Kings, His Highness Yadavindra Singh Mohinder Bahadur)

Reverse Within a disc a crescent at the top and crossed batons with lotus flower at the bottom. Around the rim three circles



and lotus flowers at the top and the Gurmukhi inscription around the lower edge *Rajyabhishekh 25 Cheta 1994* (Coronation 6/7 April 1938 A.D.)

<i>Size</i>	37mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	32mm; Golden yellow with 3mm maroon and 2mm yellow edge stripes. The maroon has also been seen as red.
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring
<i>Designer</i>	Believed to have been manufactured by Janardhan Singh & Bros., Moga (Punjab)
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

A miniature version of this medal is known.

Again the translation of the date on the reverse is an approximation and does not actually fit the historical record. 25 Cheta equates to 6/7 April in the Christian calendar. According to the historical record Yadavindra Singh acceded to the *gaddi* on 23 March 1938 but his coronation could, of course, have followed a couple of weeks later.

230

PATIALA PANCHAYAT



<i>Obverse</i>	Type A except that he wears ten strings of pearls rather than six. Around the edge in English PATIALA PANCHAYAT.
<i>Reverse</i>	A set of weighing scales within an open wreath with inscription. Attempts to translate this have not been successful.
<i>Size</i>	29mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	Not known
<i>Suspension</i>	A crude claw and loop
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

The Panchayat was a Council of Regency consisting of three people which exercised the functions of State during a minority rule and coordinated the activities of the four Departments of State

Diwan-i-Mal (Finance) under the Diwan

Munshi Khana (Foreign) under the Mir Munshi

Sadr Adalat (Judicial) under the Adalati

Bakhshi Khana (Military) under the Bakhshi or Commander in Chief

The Panchayat commemorated by this particular medal was for the minority rule of Bhupendra Singh, i.e., between 1900 and 1910. This was the third Council of Regency in Patiala's history. Maharaja Narindar Singh had died in 1862 at the age of 39 years. His only son Mohindar Singh was aged 10 at the time and so a Council of Regency was appointed during his minority. He only lived for six years after attaining full powers, dying suddenly in 1876. In turn his son, Rajindra Singh, was only 4 years old at the time of his accession and so a Council of Regency was formed until 1890. Bhupendra Singh was 9 years old when his father died in 1900, hence the third Council of Regency commemorated by this medal, but it is not known exactly why the medal was issued, nor to whom it would have been awarded. It was clearly intended for wear but the circumstances under which it would have been worn have not been determined. No similar medals have been found for the Panchayats of either Mohindar Singh or Rajindra Singh.

CHAPTER 36

PORBANDAR

*Area**642 sq miles**Population**1931 - 115,573*

Located in the Kathiawar peninsula in western India, the rulers of Porbandar, who enjoyed the family title of Rana, were Jethwa Rajputs of ancient lineage who claimed descent from Hanuman. They traced their settlement in the area to the tenth century at which time they established themselves near Morvi. The Rana paid an annual monetary tribute to the Gaekwar of Baroda. On 5 December 1809 Porbandar ceded its port to the British under Articles of Agreement. In recognition of services rendered during the First World War the title of Maharaja was conferred as an hereditary distinction.

Known only by a 29mm wide piece of maroon silk ribbon (231), Porbandar is claimed by ribbon collectors to have instituted:

THE ORDER OF RAJRATMA**THE ORDER OF RAJMANTRI****THE ORDER OF RAJSHUBECHHAK**

(presumably Rajyabhishekh - a coronation medal, in which case possibly 1908)

No further details are known.

CHAPTER 37

PUDUKKOTTAI

<i>Area</i>	<i>Population</i>
1,179 sq miles	1931 - 400,694

A small state in southern India, the rulers were Kallars who settled the area in the seventeenth century. The State was founded by Ragunatha Raya Tondaiman. In the eighteenth century the Tondaimans sided with the British in their fight against the French, and in their battles with Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan, as a result of which their title to the land around Kilanilai in southern Tanjore was recognised. The ruler was entitled to a permanent salute of eleven guns. It is not clear why Pudukkottai should have issued a Victory Medal. It maintained a small military force, though not a part of the Indian State Forces, consisting of 19 cavalry and 110 infantry. They were probably no more than palace guards. It also had a police force of 299.

Pudukkottai only issued two coins and, although the language of the State was Tamil, the inscription on the coins was in Telugu and included the word 'Victory'. The inscription on this medal is in Tamil. It is not clear how many of the following medals were struck, nor to whom they would have been given.

232

VICTORY MEDAL (PROBABLY SECOND WORLD WAR)



Obverse The bust of a young ruler, facing half right wearing a high neck tunic. (This is assumed to be Rajagopala Tondaiman Bahadur who ruled from 1928 to Independence). Around the edge an ornamental border.

Reverse The letter "V" with a Maltese Cross on either side and the word VICTORY above. Below, in Tamil script, *Vijayam* (Victory). Around the edge an ornamental border as on the obverse.

Size 39mm

Metal Silver plate over base metal

Ribbon Not known

Suspension Crude ring

Designer The initials HBF appear on the reverse below the "V"

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Not known, probably none



CHAPTER 38

RAMPUR

Area

892 sq miles

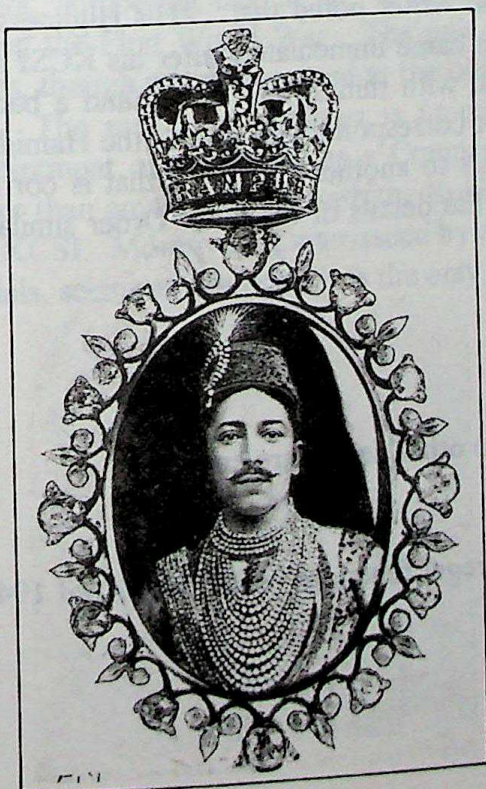
Population

1931 - 464,919

Located within the United Provinces, and now a part of Himachal Pradesh, the rulers of Rampur were the last surviving representatives of what had once been the Rohilla power. Descendants of Pathan tribesmen who had entered India from Afghanistan, they had taken over the area of Rohilkhand but had lost much of their territory at the hands of the British who had sided with the Nawabs of Awadh (Oude) during a dispute between the two. Subsequently Nawab Yusuf Ali Khan had remained neutral during the time of the 1857 Mutiny. The last ruler, Sir Saiyid Raza Ali Khan Bahadur, succeeded to the gaddi in 1930 and inherited his father's strong-minded chief minister, Colonel Syed Bashir Hussain Zaidi. Credited as an enlightened administrator who did much to industrialize his State, it was, according to one of his sons, Colonel Zaidi who was really responsible for this. Nevertheless, Saiyid Raza Ali Khan took his full share of the work and saw to it that Hindus, who comprised about 23 per cent of his population, were introduced into the State Council, the Army and other services. He was the first Muslim ruler of importance openly to accept accession to India after Independence.

233

HAMIDIYA MEDAL
{NISHAN-I-IQBAL}
{ORDER OF MERIT}

*Obverse*

"A portrait of the Nawab Saiyid Muhammad Hamid Ali Khan framed in gold and diamonds, gold or silver according to the class".¹ The illustration is of a device from the Spada collection - pendant of gold and diamonds, coloured enamel work. At the centre a portrait of the Nawab wearing ceremonial dress and rows of pearls. Border in stylized lilies, gold alternating with diamonds, surmounted by royal crown with large diamond, its base inscribed "Rampur".

*Reverse**Size**Metal**Ribbon*

Monogram - no further details
 40mm diameter
 gold or silver
 Possibly green with maroon edge

stripes; First Class, 100 mm, stripes 11mm wide at 10mm from edge. Second and Third Class 37mm, stripes 5mm at 5mm from edge (but see the comment below).

Suspension Neck ribbon ring on reverse

Designer Not known

Naming Not known

Bars issued Probably none.

The description given in quotation marks ¹ above was as noted by the Government of India when it was reported that the Hamidiya Medal had been issued by the Nawab for some twenty five years, i.e., it must have been instituted in about 1895. Medals of the second and third classes were awarded by the Nawab to members of a party of the Rampur Imperial Service Infantry which captured a German patrol in East Africa during the First World War. The remainder of the description above is taken from the Spada Collection which contained this piece, assumed to have been made in the last years of the nineteenth century. The Spada catalogue noted that the award was "bestowed upon H.H. Muhammad Hamid Ali Khan Bahadur, Nawab of Rampur, GCIE (1908), GCVVO (1911), GCSI (1921), Hon ADC to King George V, Major General, acceded to the throne of Rampur 1889". The question this description raises is, who bestowed the award on the Nawab? If this is his portrait, and later known examples suggest that it is indeed an earlier portrait, then it does seem more likely that the award would have been bestowed by him. The alternative titles of Nishan-i-Iqbal and Order of Merit have not been confirmed. The ribbon is not confirmed for the Hamidiya Medal but is attributed by collectors to the 'Order of Merit'. The author has serious doubts that the ribbon does belong here and that 'Order of Merit' is therefore a proper alternative title for the Hamidiya Medal.

In 1939 the Viceroy, Lord Linlithgow, caused enquiries to be made about the position of Indian State awards. In a Minute addressed to him on 4 July 1939 the writer noted that "...His Highness of Rampur was wearing the miniature last night of an Order which came immediately after his KCSI and before his Coronation etc. medals, consisting of a green ribbon with thin stripes of red and a badge containing some Persian inscription".² This description does not correspond with that of the Hamidiya Medal and it does seem likely, therefore, that the ribbon belongs to another Order. If that is correct then the ribbon for the Hamidiya Medal remains unknown and the details of the other Order similarly remain unknown.

HOUSEHOLD MEDAL

A note by E.H. O'Toole refers to a plain yellow ribbon. No other details are known.

1. "Wearing of State decorations and foreign miniatures at Viceregal functions" July 1939-April 1943. IOLR R/3/1/242 File 27(3)

CHAPTER 39

RATLAM
(RUTLAM)

Area
693 sq miles

Population
1931 - 107,321

A State located in Central India, in the Malwa Agency, whose ruler, descended from the younger branch of the Jodhpur family, was considered the principal Rajput leader in western Malwa. Under a treaty mediated by the British in 1819 the Ratlam family agreed to pay a monetary tribute to Scindia of Gwalior in return for the latter keeping his troops away from the State and not interfering in its internal affairs. This treaty was transferred by Gwalior to the British in 1844 in part payment of the Gwalior Contingent.

There were three rulers, Parbat Singh, Balwant Singh and Bhairon Singh, between the signing of the first treaty in 1819 and the accession of Raja Sajjan Singh in January 1893. He was the first ruler to join the Imperial Cadet Corps on its formation in 1901 and served with it until 1903. On the outbreak of the First World War he proceeded to France and continued to serve overseas for 3 years and 2 months, longer than any other Ruling Prince. He was Mentioned in Despatches by General Haigh in 1916 while serving with 39th Central India Horse and, for his war services, was subsequently rewarded with a permanent salute of 13 guns and the rank of Honorary Colonel in the Indian Army. Later in life his gun salute was increased to 15, his rank in the Army to Major General, and his hereditary title to Maharaja.

In addition to his own war service the State provided the Ratlam Imperial Service Despatch Riders, numbering five in all, who served with the Kathiawar Signal Troop in Egypt and Palestine during the First World War. The unit was disbanded in 1930 and replaced by the Ratlam Lokendra Rifles, though this disappeared at the outbreak of the Second World War.

The medal that follows is unique in the context of this book in that it commemorates the appointment of an official as a Companion of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire (CIE) rather than anything to do with the Ruler, yet he received a number of awards, including GCIE, KCVO and KCSI. Moreover, it was issued by a British official which, given the attitude of the British to State medals, seems a little odd. It is the only medal that I have found for this State.

THE BARR MEDAL

235

<i>Obverse</i>	The bust of Colonel D.W.K. Barr, facing half left, in diplomatic ceremonial uniform with two medals on his breast. Around the edge the inscription COL. D.W.K. BARR ISC CSI AGENT TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN C.I.
<i>Reverse</i>	Around the top edge the inscription in English "The Barr Medal Central

	College Rutlam". Around the lower edge the inscription "On 24th January 1900". On nine lines in the centre the inscription "IN/Commemoration/of the investiture/of the Dewan/Khan Bahadoor/Khurshedji Rastamji/Thanewala/with the badge of CIE".
<i>Size</i>	55mm diameter
<i>Metal</i>	what appears to be steel, a very thick medal
<i>Ribbon</i>	36mm; 20mm dark green central stripe edged by scarlet (4mm) and dark green (4mm)
<i>Suspension</i>	An otherwise straight suspension bar but for a half loop in the centre
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	The example seen was unnamed
<i>Bars Issued</i>	None

I was unable to photograph this medal

CHAPTER 40

REWAH

Area
13,000 sq miles

Population
1931 - 1,587,445

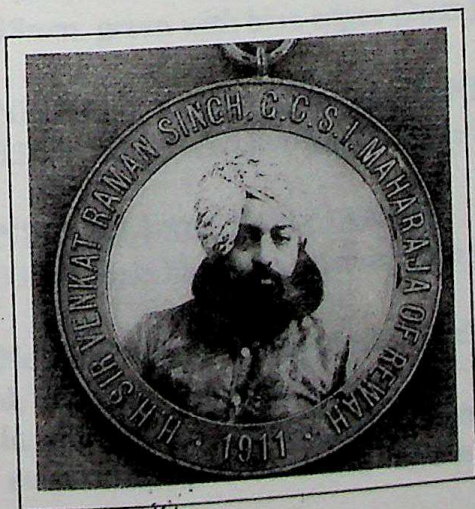
A 17 gun salute State comprising the majority of the area known as Baghelkand in Central India. Rewa had been brought within the sphere of British influence by a treaty signed at Bandā on 5 October 1812. During the 1857 Mutiny the Raja deployed his forces to keep open the Katra pass and the road to Jabalpur. The State deity was known as Rajadhiraj (King of Kings) Ramchandraji and the rulers adopted the notion that it was the deity, not the ruler, who sat on the gaddi. The ruling family belonged to the Baghela clan of Rajputs which was descended from the Gujarat family that ruled at Anhilwara Patan in the thirteenth century. A member of this family migrated to central India and obtained possession of Bandhogarh, which remained the capital of the Baghelas until captured by Akbar in 1597, when Rewa became the main town. Akbar made over his conquests to the Baghela ruler, from whom the family descended but, given the notion of the deity on the gaddi, the Raja accepted his position as servant of the deity, responsible for looking after his people as God's representative.

For all of that, Maharaja Gulab Singh, born 12 March 1903, succeeded to the *gaddi* as a minor on 31 October 1918. He was renowned as a hunter who shot hundreds of tigers during his life. He was, however, a poor manager of his State, incapable of separating his privy purse from State expenditure. In 1934 Conrad Corfield was sent to Rewa as Maharaja's 'Adviser' in an attempt to straighten things out. Twelve years later Corfield, as Political Adviser to the Viceroy, brought about Gulab Singh's deposition and replacement by his son. Gulab Singh was banned from entering Rewa again.

The medal shown below dates from the period of Gulab Singh's predecessor, Venkat Raman Singh. Although Rewa maintained armed troops they were few in number and it is not clear if this "Good Service Medal" is a military or civil award.

GOOD SERVICE MEDAL

236

*Obverse*

A daguerreotype of Venkat Raman Singh printed on porcelain and glazed. Around the edge the inscription, H.H. SIR VENKAT RAMAN SINGH G.C.S.I. OF REWAH. 1911

Reverse

Within a wreath the inscription on three lines, AWARDED/FOR/GOOD SERVICES

Size

51 mm

Metal

Silver

Ribbon

Not known



Suspension Ring

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued Probably none

CHAPTER 41

SACHIN

Area
49 sq miles

Population
1931 - 22,107

A small state of the Baroda and Gujarat agency, the ruling family was of African descent. During the minority of Nawab Sidi Abdul Kadir Mahomed Yakut Khan, his subsequent resignation in favour of his son, and the minority of that son, Nawab Sidi Ibrahim Mahomed Yakut Khan III, the State came under Government administration (1873-1907). In May 1907 the latter was installed on the *gaddi* and ruled until his death in November 1930. For his support during the First World War he was appointed an Honorary Captain and given a personal 11 gun salute.

In August 1918 the Nawab wrote to the Collector and Political Agent requesting Government consent to his bestowing First and Second Class awards respectively of **THE SARDARI ORDER** and **THE ORDER OF MERIT**, instituted for the adequate recognition of good services of officers and subjects of the State. The Government raised the usual objections about not recognising "Orders" except those granted by the King-Emperor and suggested that the Nawab find some other way of rewarding the services of his officials. The Nawab in turn objected to this line and the Government replied that it might be disposed to permit the awards if the titles were changed to some designation which would make it clear that they were not of the nature of Orders. In January 1919 the Nawab replied that the **ORDER OF MERIT** would be changed to **FIRST CLASS GOLD and SECOND CLASS SILVER MEDALS FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE** (though there is some confusion in a subsequent letter when reference is made to the Second Class having both Gold and Silver medals), and **THE SARDARI ORDER** would be changed to **FIRST AND SECOND CLASS SARDARI DECORATIONS**. There the matter seems to have rested. Documents up to that date suggest that one First Class and two Second Class medals from each of the two awards had been granted. No details have been found of the medals and no examples have been seen.

Ribbon collectors credit Sachin with three awards as follows;

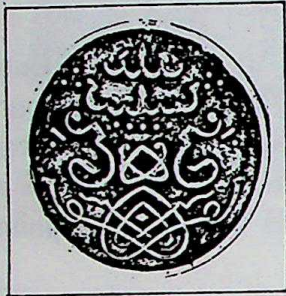
- 237 **NISHAN-i-YAKUT ZAMAN or YAKUT ZAMAN MEDAL**
38mm: green with blue edges (2mm) and a 1mm yellow stripe 12mm from each edge.
- 238 **NISHAN-i-HADANI (or HEDANI)**
33mm: white with five green stripes (2mm) 3mm apart.
- 239 **NISHAN-i-SULTAN MANZIR**
33mm: pale blue with a 2mm white stripe set 3mm from each edge.

No other references to these awards have been found and it is not certain that they existed, or if they did, that they belonged to Sachin.

In addition, the following medallion is known, though the circumstances of its issue, and whether it was ever intended to be worn, have not been determined. Indeed, the inscription on one side (it

cannot be determined whether obverse or reverse) only serves to add to the mystery.

UNIDENTIFIED



<i>Obverse</i>	The Urdu inscription <i>Fateh Las Bela</i> (Las Bela Victory)
<i>Reverse</i>	Within an open wreath, on two lines in English, the inscription SACHIN STATE.
<i>Size</i>	32mm
<i>Metal</i>	Silver
<i>Ribbon</i>	None known
<i>Suspension</i>	No obvious sign of suspension
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	Probably none

Las Bela was a State in Baluchistan which, though under the full control of its own Jam, came under the suzerainty of the Khan of Kalat. What the "Victory" of the medal inscription was, and why it should have anything to do with Sachin, remains unanswered.

CHAPTER 42

SIRMUR
(NAHAN)

Area
1,046 sq miles

Population
1931 - 148,568

The State of Sirmur was frequently called Nahan after its chief town. With a permanent salute of 11 guns, the ruling Rajput family of this Himalayan State claimed descent from the Jaisalmer royal house, one of whose members, Agar Sain Rawal, took possession of the vacant throne while on a pilgrimage to the Ganges at the end of the eleventh century. Prior to that the area had been ruled by an ancient family which faded away. From 1803 to 1815 Sirmur came under Gurkha control but, following their expulsion by the British during the Nepal War, the original Rajput family was restored as a British feudatory, though the treaty, signed on 21 September 1815, imposed the requirement to consult the Superintendent of Hill States in all matters affecting the management of the State, and to furnish troops when necessary. It is interesting to see the affix "Singh" on the medal described below because in this family it changed to "Parkash" in the case of the Ruling Prince - "Parkash" signifying in Sanskrit "Came to light". Bir Bikram Singh therefore became Raja Sir Surendar Bikram Parkash when he succeeded his father in October 1898.

His father, Raja Sir Shamsher Parkash Bahadur had rendered loyal service to the British during 1857, and his son, Raja Sir Amar Parkash, who succeeded in July 1911, continued the tradition during the First World War, for which he was created Maharaja. The State maintained a particularly fine Sapper unit under the Imperial Service Troops/Indian State Forces scheme. In 1898 the Raja proposed issuing a medal to those of his Sirmur Sappers who had participated in the Tirah campaign but he was dissuaded by the British Government and subsequently dropped the idea.

The following therefore remains the only medal so far traced to this State.

ROYAL WEDDING

241



Obverse
Reverse

The State coat of arms of Sirmur
Around the edge, MARRIAGE BIR
BIKRAM SINGH OF SIRMOOR
FEBRUARY 1886. In the centre an
inscription, part of which reads *Shadi
Kunwar Bikram Singh Saheb
Sirmoor 1886 (Marriage of Prince
Bikram Singh Sirmoor February 1886)*

Size

41mm

Metal

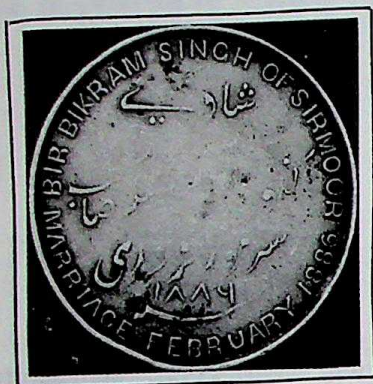
Silver

Ribbon

None known

Suspension

No obvious sign of suspension.



Possibly intended for presentation box

Designer Not known

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None

The last Maharaja, Rajindra Parkash, was born in January 1931 and succeeded in November 1933.



CHAPTER 43

SIROHI

Area

1,994 sq miles

Population

1931 - 216,528

The ruling family of Sirohi claimed descent from Prithviraj, the Chauhan King of Ajmer and Delhi. A treaty of subsidiary alliance was concluded with the British in 1823, and in 1845 the ruler made over to the British Government lands on Mount Abu. These came to be administered separately by the Political Department of the Government of India. The ruler was entitled to a 15 gun salute.

The last Maharao, Saropa Ram Singh, died on 23 January 1946 leaving no son. His first Maharani was the daughter of the Maharao of Kutch but he had also taken three other wives. On his death there were two claimants to the *gaddi*; Tej Singh, who belonged to the senior sub-branch of the Mandar branch of the ruling family; and Abhai Singhji, grandson of the direct brother of Maharao Umedsingh who had ruled the state until 1876. In May 1946, the Crown Representative recognised Tej Singh as Maharao of Sirohi but, since he was a minor, a Regency Council was established with the Dowager Maharani as President. A third claimant, Lakhpatt Ram Singh, claimed to be the son of Saropa Ram Singh by his *kanda* (sword) marriage to a Rajput lady. His request to be recognised as lawful heir was dismissed in April 1945, but following Independence both rejected claimants asked for their cases to be reviewed. A Committee of Inquiry was established on 10 March 1949 and ruled that Abhai Singhji was the lawful heir to Saropa Ram Singh. The Government of India accepted the recommendation of the Committee and recognised Abhai Singhji as Maharao.

On the integration of the Indian States Sirohi was finally divided, the Abu Road and Dilawara tehsils being merged with Bombay and the remainder of the State with Rajasthan.

SILVER WEIGHMENT MEDAL

242



Obverse

Portrait of the minor ruler wearing turban with plume facing. Around the edge H.H. MAHARAO TEJSINGHJI OF SIROHI

Reverse

On eight lines, TO/COMMEMORATE/HIS/SILVER WEIGHMENT/ON HIS PREMIER VISIT/AT ABU ROAD/2ND AUGUST/1946. Below, between two plain lines, V & CO

Size

30mm

Metal

silver

Ribbon

None. Kept in presentation box

Suspension

None

Designer

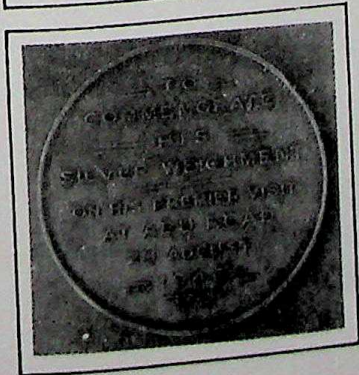
V & Co, Calcutta

Naming

None

Bars issued

None



It is likely that these pieces were produced for the purpose of weighing the ruler and were later presented, distributed or sold as souvenirs.

A claim has been noted that the obverse of the Silver Weighment Medal is seen on other medals issued by the State. It is not known what these other medals might have been. Given the brevity of his rule, and the uncertainty surrounding it, it does seem unlikely that too many medals would have been produced.

CHAPTER 44

TONK

Area

2,553 sq miles

Population

1931 - 317,360

A small Muslim state located partially within Rajputana and partially in central India, but administered by the Rajputana Agency, Tonk had been founded in 1806 by Amir Khan who had received the territory from Jaswant Rao Holkar. Amir Khan was prone to raiding neighbouring states and so, on 9 November 1817 at Delhi, he was forced into a treaty of friendship with the East India Company, thereby assuring his good behaviour. In return, all his estates within the territories of the Holkar were guaranteed to him by the British Government. The ruler was entitled to a permanent salute of 17 guns but a personal salute of 19 guns. The last ruler, Muhammad Sa'adat Ali Khan, ruled from 1930 until the integration of Tonk into the first Rajasthan Union on 25 March 1948.

The only ribbon known for Tonk is variously described as Coronation Medal 1947 or 1948. It is 38mm; three dark green stripes (6mm) with 10mm white stripes in between (243). In view of the above it is difficult to see why there should have been a coronation in either year and it may be that the ribbon refers to an Integration Medal, possibly issued to coincide with the incorporation of Tonk into Rajasthan in 1948. No details of the medal are known, though given that an identified badge for Tonk shows crossed swords over a ball with star and crescent above, it is possible that any medal would have carried the same device.

CHAPTER 45

TRAVANCORE

Area
7,625 sq miles

Population
1931 - 5,035,973

Located in the extreme southwest of India, the State had a lengthy history before being annexed by the Vijayanagar kingdom. With Vijayanagar's defeat at the battle of Talikota in 1565, Travancore came under Muslim control until the eighteenth century, when it emerged as a state in its own right under Raja Martanda Varma who, in January 1750, dedicated the state to Sri Padmanabha, the tutelary deity of his family. Since then all successors ruled as '*Dasas*' or servants of that deity, incorporating that designation in their official title. On 17 November 1795 the Raja of Travancore signed a treaty of friendship with the East India Company, thereby securing British protection against the Muslim dynasty of Mysore. The last ruler, H.H. Sir Padmanabha Dasa, Vanchipala, Sir Bala Rama Varma, Kulasekhara Kiritapati, Manney Sultan, Maharaja Raja Ramaraja Bahadur, Shamsheer Jang (Bala Rama Varma II), was born in 1912 and acceded to the gaddi in 1924 at the age of 12. He was invested with full ruling powers in November 1931 and was entitled to a permanent 19 gun salute. In 1949 Travancore merged with Cochin to form Travancore and Cochin which in turn became part of the state of Kerala in 1956.

244

ORDER OF THE CONCH

(the *Saikha* or conch shell featured in the coinage of Travancore)

No detailed description of this Order has been found. In a letter dated 4 December 1936, Lord Linlithgow, the Viceroy, wrote, "C.P. (Sir C.P. Ramaswami Ayyar) appears to have taken the opportunity of his assumption of responsibility to allow the Maharaja to devise two Orders, the Order of the Conch and another named after a previous Ruler of Travancore, which contravenes instructions".¹ Linlithgow instructed the Under Secretary of State to inform the Maharaja accordingly and advise him that the Orders must be rescinded. One source reports having seen a picture of the Maharaja (no date) wearing around his neck something resembling a Conch. The other Order named after a previous Ruler of Travancore has not been identified at all.

Other medals are known only by references to them in annual Administration Reports for the State. No descriptions or examples have been found and no details of ribbons appear in any of the collections known to me.

245

MAHARAJA'S MEDAL (GOLD)

Mentioned in the 1939-40 Report as having been awarded to Miss A.T. Martin, Surgeon, Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum, and to Mr S.C.H. Robinson, Game Warden.

246

POLICE MEDALS

246a

MAHARAJA'S POLICE MEDAL - awarded to police Inspectors for gallantry

246b

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL - awarded to police Inspectors

246c

TRAVANCORE POLICE MEDAL - awarded to police officers of high rank and to constables for gallantry.

All the above were mentioned in the 1940-41 Report.

247

UNIDENTIFIED

Known only by a ribbon attributed to Travancore, it may, of course, refer to one of the medals listed above. 32mm; maroon centre (26mm) with white edges (3mm)

1. "Grant of titles and decorations by Indian Princes and Chiefs, November 1929-November 1943". IOLR L/P&S/13/491 File 103

CHAPTER 46

TRIPURA

Hill Tipperah

Area

4,116 sq miles

Population

1931 - 382,450

Situated in Bengal on the border with Assam, the State comprised a strip of fertile plains east of Bengal and a large tract of hill territory beyond. The ruler of Tripura was entitled to a 13 gun permanent salute.

The history of the ruling family is preserved in the *Rajmala*, a Bengali epic, said to be the oldest extant composition in that language. The fortunes of the ruling family fluctuated according to the relative strengths of Bengal. When the latter was weak the rule extended to the plains areas, the sixteenth century seeing its greatest period of power, but when Bengal was strong the Tripura dynasty was confined to the hill tracts. In the eighteenth century the State was taken over by Muslims but they proceeded to occupy the plains only, leaving the hill tracts alone. The Raja occupied the plains as a zemindar of the Mughals, though he still retained his Kingdom in the hills. This situation remained unchanged when, in 1765, the British took control of the area. Thus the Maharaja, Krishna Manikya, was both a British Indian zemindar and a ruling prince. In 1871 an agent was appointed by the British to help administer the hills, which became known as the State of Hill Tipperah. Maharaja Vira Vikram Kishore Manikya (AD 1923-47), who struck medallic coins in 1930 bearing his portrait, was responsible for the following medals being struck.

248

WAR SERVICE MEDAL 1939-45

The date on the reverse of the medal is shown as 1346-55 Tripurabad. According to "Memoranda on the Indian States" Tripura maintained its own era starting from 590 A.D. when Raja Bir Raj extended his conquests beyond the Ganges. If this is correct, therefore, the dates should translate as 1936-45. While the latter date is correct the former is not and should, perhaps, have read 1349.

*Obverse*

A soldier charging towards a trench with right arm outstretched in front, as if throwing a grenade. In the trench enemy soldiers with arms up in surrender. In the background a pagoda.

Reverse

In centre a head wearing a horned helmet. Around an inner circle the inscription in English - WAR SERVICE MEDAL TRIPURA - and under the head the date 1939-45 A.D. Around the top outer edge the



Devanagari inscription *Samar Padak Tripura 1346-55 Tripurabad* (War Service Medal 1939-45 A.D. Tripura).

Size 35 mm

Metal cupro nickel

Ribbon Possibly 33 mm. Central white stripe 2mm edged by red 2mm, yellow 11mm and outer red edges 2mm. This is the only ribbon attributed to Tripura, though it remains unidentified by collectors.

Suspension Straight bar welded to top of medal

Designer Unknown

Naming Apparently unnamed

Bars issued Probably none

In 1938 Tripura's two companies of infantry combined to form 1st Tripura (Bir Bikram) Manikya Rifles. During the Second World War this unit saw service in India and then, as an headquarters and three companies, with 15 Corps in Burma. It gained sixteen gallantry awards and in excess of 30 Mentions in Despatches - a good record. It can be assumed, therefore, that the above War Service Medal would have been awarded to all unit personnel who saw active service. Allowing for replacements there could have been up to 500 medals issued.

STATE ORDER

There was some form of State Order because, in March 1930, it was reported that the Maharaja proposed conferring on the King of Italy, and on Benito Mussolini, the highest order of Tripura State (no further details) in return for a suitable honour for himself, and an exchange of decorations for the respective staff. The matter came to the attention of the Government of India and he was discouraged from continuing with the plan.

CHAPTER 47

UDAIPUR (MEWAR)

*Area**12,941 sq miles**Population**1931 - 1,611,373*

The Maharana of Udaipur claimed descent from Rama, the ancient King of Ayodhya, through Kanak Sen who founded the family in the second century AD. The ruling family was recognised as the highest in rank and dignity among the Rajput Princes of India. Belonging to the Sisodia sect of the Gohil clan, it is the boast of the family that they never gave a daughter in marriage to any Mughal invader. Bapa Rawal, ancestor of the family, established himself in Chittor and Mewar in 734 AD, having previously been driven out of Idar, but Chittor fell to Muslim invaders on three occasions; Ala-ud-din Khilji (1303), Bahadur Shah of Gujarat (1534) and Akbar (1567). After the third sacking Rana Udai Singh retired to the Aravali hills where he founded the city of Udaipur.

He was succeeded in 1572 by his son, Partab Singh, who not only refused to give in to the Mughals, but was also able to gather together his forces and recover most of his territories. Tranquility followed until after his death when, once more, Udaipur suffered at the hands of invaders - this time the armies of Scindia, Holkar and Pindari plunderers. Dependent for his maintenance on the generosity of the Regent of Kotah, it was in this condition that Maharana Bhim Singh came to sign a Treaty of friendship and amity with the British on 13 January 1818.

Political relations were established in that year when Captain J Tod became the first Political Agent in Mewar. He did much to restore the finances of the State before his departure in 1821. Full powers were restored to the Maharana in 1826 and, in 1831, the Political Agency was abolished and the State brought into relations with the Superintendent of Ajmer. The Agency was re-established in 1836, though not located at Udaipur until 1861. In 1881 it became a Residency.

Maharana Sir Fateh Singh Bahadur (1884-1930) is reputed to have refused to attend Durbars or show any other signs of submitting to the paramount power. Nevertheless, he did attend the 1911 Durbar at Delhi, though it is true he was excused from participating in all of the ceremonies due to ill health. There is a story that, on being awarded the insignia of a Knight Grand Commander of the Order of the Indian Empire (GCIE) after the 1911 Delhi Durbar, he disdainfully said, "It is the sort of thing that *pattawallas* (paper-shufflers) wear. Put it on the horse." The story should be taken with a pinch of salt. Photographs of him wearing his earlier-awarded GCSI insignia are known, and at the end of the First World War he was awarded a GCVO. It is doubtful the King-Emperor would have given him his personal decoration if the attitude towards the GCIE were true.

Fateh Singh died in May 1930 and was succeeded by his son, Maharana Sir Bhupal Singh Bahadur. His coronation medal was the first medal to be issued by the State, though it was not the premier award of the State. Government of Mewar Order No 6200 of 19 February 1946 announced:

"Whereas it is desirable to reward and recognise services to His Highness and the State suitably by the bestowal of titles and medals upon such persons as render extraordinary and important services or who occupy with distinction high and important posts, His Highness the Maharana Sahib Bahadur has been pleased to institute the following titles and medals..."(it then went on to list two medals of honour, six civil service titles each carrying a medal, two military service titles with medals, two public service titles with medals, two police medals and four Household Service medals). Although not

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Very few examples of Udaipur medals have been found. While a number of ribbons are accredited by collectors to them, it is possible that some of the medals were never actually manufactured and issued, though several awards were promulgated in The Sajjankirti Sudhakar Udaipur (State Gazette).

249

MAHARANA PRATAP PADAK

The premier award of the State, to take precedence over all other awards. No example has been found and no description or photograph is known. According to ribbon collectors the ribbon was 53mm - golden yellow. The first recipient was Dewan Bahadur Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya KBE (27 February 1946), Prime Minister of Mewar 1946. Only one other recipient has been traced in records - Major General Rao Manohar Singhji MBE MBP of Bedla, Acting Prime Minister and Home Minister of Mewar 1948.

250

MAHARANA BHUPAL PADAK

The second ranking award of the State, again no example has been found and no description or photograph is known. According to ribbon collectors the ribbon was 53mm - red. Three awards have been traced - Colonel Rao Manohar Singhji MBE of Bedla, and Mr Tej Sinhaji Mehta (both 27 February 1946), and Lt Col Amatya Shreshtha Rai Bahadur Ram Gopalji Trivedi, Minister-in-Waiting to the Maharana (6 March 1948). The 9ct gold medals were made by Satramdas Dhalmal Johri of Calcutta.

CIVIL SERVICE TITLES

The titles for Civil Services announced in February 1946 were:

251 AMATYA SHRESHT (*Supreme Minister*) A Class I 9ct gold medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - divided equally red/grey/red. No example has been found, though three awards have been traced in records. The medals were made by Satramdas Dhalmal Johri of Calcutta.

252 SACHIV SHRESHT (*Eminent Minister*) A Class I gold medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - divided equally red/green/red. Only one award has been traced in records but the example has not been found

253 MANTRI SHRESHT (*Distinguished Minister*) A Class I gold medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - divided equally red/blue/red. Only two awards have been traced in records and no example

of the medal has been found.

254 RAJYANITI PRAVINA (also seen as **RAJYA NITI PRAVEEN**) (*Expert Politician*) A Class II silver medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - divided equally rust/ black/rust. Nine awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found.

255 RAJYAKARYA PRAVINA (*Expert Administrator*) A Class II silver medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - divided equally rust/green/rust. Five awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found. The 17gms medal was designed by Mewar artist Chattar Bhuj and made by Mistry Shiv Ram Lohar of Udaipur.

256 RAJYASEVA PRAVINA (*Expert State Servant*) A Class II silver medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - divided equally rust/pale blue/rust. Twelve awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found. The 17gms medal was designed by Mewar artist Chattar Bhuj and made by Mistry Shiv Ram Lohar of Udaipur.

MILITARY SERVICE TITLES

257 SAMANTH (*Warrior - another word for Jagirdar*) This was a Class I gold medal intended for officers only; the ribbon attributed to it is 36mm - red with four yellow stripes. As far as can be ascertained, however, it was never awarded and no medal was ever struck.

258 SENA NAYAK (*Leader of the Army*) A Class II silver medal, it was only awarded once, to Major Jaswant Singhji. He retired as a Brigadier in the Indian Army and told the author that he was on his way to Hyderabad as part of the police operation when he heard of the announcement. He never received the actual medal, though he wore the ribbon, 38mm - divided equally yellow/red/yellow. From this it is assumed that the medal was not struck.

PUBLIC SERVICE TITLES

259 RAJYA BANDHU (*Well Wisher of the State*) A Class I gold medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - divided equally green/red/green. Only three awards have been traced in records. The 17gms medal was designed by Mewar artist Chattar Bhuj and made by Mistry Shiv Ram Lohar of Udaipur.

260 RAJYA PRIYA. A Class II silver medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - divided equally black/orange/black. Five awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found.

POLICE MEDALS

261 MAHARANA POLICE MEDAL. A Class I 9ct gold medal, it was open only to gazetted officers and was only awarded once in this form, to Rai Bahadur Chandra Bhanji Pande, Inspector General of Police (16 February 1947). Nevertheless, the Gazette of 27 February 1946 reported that "Mr Sunderlalji Trivedi and Mr Hamir Singhji Rathore were awarded Gold Medals in 1937 and 1943. These medals will be treated as equivalent to the Maharana Police Medal now instituted". The ribbon

of the new medal, according to collectors, was 38mm - black (or blue) 7mm, yellow/red/yellow (each 8mm), black (or blue) 7mm. The medal was designed by Mewar artist Chattar Bhuj and made by Mistry Shiv Ram Lohar of Udaipur. The one example of the medal has not been found, nor the two earlier ones referred to.

262 MEWAR POLICE MEDAL. Open to Inspectors and Sub Inspectors with a monetary reward of Rs.10/- per month, and to Head Constables and Constables with a monetary reward of Rs.5/- per month. Its ribbon, according to collectors, was 38mm - yellow with two white (or dark blue) stripes (each 2mm) set 4mm and 10mm from each edge. Only one award has been found in records.

MISCELLANEOUS

263 MEDPAT SEVA PADAK. Awarded for approved service in civil and military departments of the State or of work of high order in any art or profession. the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - divided equally black/green/black. Twenty two awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found.

264

MAHARANA BHUPAL RAJYA BHISHEK PADAK (Coronation Medal 1930)

Bhupal Singh succeeded his father Fateh Singh on 24 May 1930, was installed on the *gaddi* on 6 June 1930 and received the Viceroy's *kharita* on 22 August 1930. As described below, the effigy of Bhupal Singh on the obverse is shown wearing the sash and Star of the GCSI. It is of interest, however, that he was not created GCSI until 1 January 1931, suggesting that this medal may well have been struck some time after the event it commemorates. The inclusion of the GCSI insignia is therefore historically inaccurate.



Obverse A full face portrait of Maharana Bhupal Singh wearing a plain tunic with pearls at the neck and his GCSI sash and Star. Around the top the Devanagari inscription *Maharajadhiraj Maharana Shri Bhopal Singh* (The great emperor Maharana Shri Bhopal Singh).

Reverse Within a wreath the Devanagari inscription on three lines *Rajyabhisheka Jyeshtha Shukla 8 Samvat 1986* (Coronation on 6 June 1930). The word SILVER is stamped below the wreath.



Size 39mm
Metal Silver
Ribbon 33mm red with two yellow stripes, each

3mm, at the centre. This ribbon is often incorrectly referred to by ribbon collectors as Medal for Special Service to the State of Keonthal.

Suspension Ring and loop

Designer The ribbon was designed by Mewar artist Chattar Bhuj but it is not known if he designed the medal as well. It was manufactured by Satramdas Dhalma Johri of Calcutta.

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None

A miniature medal was issued.

265

MEWAR VICTORY MEDAL 1945

Announced under Government of Mewar Order No 256-CR dated 21 August 1945, to be awarded to "Umraos, Ministers, Jagirdars, Officers civil and military, public men and others, who have directly or indirectly rendered services in connection with the war effort. All State Officers of the Mewar State Forces including the Bhupal Infantry, Training Centre, Sajjan Infantry and Mewar Lancers will be awarded the silver medals and all Indian Officers and other ranks bronze medals".



Obverse A Tower, representing the Tower of Victory, or *Kirti Stambh*, in Chittorgarh, set in a landscape. Around the top the Devanagari inscription *Mahayudh* (World War) 1939-1945 A.D.

Reverse Within a leaf and flower surround the Devanagari inscription *Chitrakuta Udayapura* (Chitrakoot is Chittorgarh) *Dosti Landhana* (Friend of London) (see note below)

Size 38mm

Metal 9 ct gold (25), silver (74) and bronze (1987). The gold version has a hallmark on the reverse at lower centre, just above the wreath. The silver version has the word SILVER in the same place.

Ribbon 34mm; divided equally into red/gold/yellow.

Suspension Ring and loop



<i>Designer</i>	The ribbon was designed by Mewar artist Chattar Bhuj but it is not known if he also designed the medals. They were manufactured by Cooke & Kelvey, Calcutta
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

Miniatures were issued for the gold and silver medals but not for the bronze.

There are two victory towers at Chittor, *Kirti Stambh* (Kirti means the announcement of victory) and *Vijay Stambh* (Vijay means victory). They are of a different height and design and this one represents *Kirti Stambh*, built to commemorate Maharana Kumbar's victory against the forces of Gujerat and Mandu in 1433. Original letters from the manufacturer, Cooke & Kelvey of Calcutta, dated 1945, refer to VIJAI Medals but this is thought to refer to "Victory" medals rather than the tower depicted on them. The inscription on the reverse was also used on the New Chandori series of coins struck at the Udaipur Mint during the reign of Swarup Singh (1842-1861 A.D.)¹. Six of the gold medals were awarded to British subjects: Colonel J F Maxwell (Assam Labour Recruitment), Lt Col C. O'B. Daunt MC, (Commandant, Mewar State Forces), Mrs J W Runciman (not further identified), Mrs Kirkbride (Residency, Udaipur, for Red Cross work), Mrs Todd (not further identified), Mrs Trevelyan (wife of Humphrey Trevelyan, External Affairs Department, New Delhi). Mr T Finnigan (ex Loco Superintendent) received the silver medal.

HOUSEHOLD MEDALS

266 HOUSEHOLD MEDAL Class I. (Referred to by some collectors as ROYAL HOUSEHOLD ORDER, there is no collateral for this designation). A gold medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - equal red/light blue/yellow/dark blue/green. Eleven awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found.

267 HOUSEHOLD MEDAL Class II. A gold medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - central red (5mm), blue (10mm) and red outer edge (5.5mm). Ten awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found.

3mm, at the centre. This ribbon is often incorrectly referred to by ribbon collectors as Medal for Special Service to the State of Keonthal.

Suspension Ring and loop

Designer The ribbon was designed by Mewar artist Chattar Bhuj but it is not known if he designed the medal as well. It was manufactured by Satramdas Dhalmaal Johri of Calcutta.

Naming Unnamed

Bars issued None

A miniature medal was issued.

265

MEWAR VICTORY MEDAL 1945

Announced under Government of Mewar Order No 256-CR dated 21 August 1945, to be awarded to "Umraos, Ministers, Jagirdars, Officers civil and military, public men and others, who have directly or indirectly rendered services in connection with the war effort. All State Officers of the Mewar State Forces including the Bhupal Infantry, Training Centre, Sajjan Infantry and Mewar Lancers will be awarded the silver medals and all Indian Officers and other ranks bronze medals".



Obverse A Tower, representing the Tower of Victory, or *Kirti Stambh*, in Chittorgarh, set in a landscape. Around the top the Devanagari inscription *Mahayudh* (World War) 1939-1945 A.D.

Reverse Within a leaf and flower surround the Devanagari inscription *Chitrakuta Udayapura* (Chitrakoot is Chittorgarh) *Dosti Landhana* (Friend of London) (see note below)

Size 38mm

Metal 9 ct gold (25), silver (74) and bronze (1987). The gold version has a hallmark on the reverse at lower centre, just above the wreath. The silver version has the word SILVER in the same place.

Ribbon 34mm; divided equally into red/gold/yellow.

Suspension Ring and loop



<i>Designer</i>	The ribbon was designed by Mewar artist Chattar Bhuj but it is not known if he also designed the medals. They were manufactured by Cooke & Kelvey, Calcutta
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars issued</i>	None

Miniatures were issued for the gold and silver medals but not for the bronze.

There are two victory towers at Chittor, *Kirti Stambh* (Kirti means the announcement of victory) and *Vijay Stambh* (Vijay means victory). They are of a different height and design and this one represents *Kirti Stambh*, built to commemorate Maharana Kumbhar's victory against the forces of Gujarat and Mandu in 1433. Original letters from the manufacturer, Cooke & Kelvey of Calcutta, dated 1945, refer to VIJAI Medals but this is thought to refer to "Victory" medals rather than the tower depicted on them. The inscription on the reverse was also used on the New Chandori series of coins struck at the Udaipur Mint during the reign of Swarup Singh (1842-1861 A.D.)¹. Six of the gold medals were awarded to British subjects: Colonel J F Maxwell (Assam Labour Recruitment), Lt Col C. O'B. Daunt MC, (Commandant, Mewar State Forces), Mrs J W Runciman (not further identified), Mrs Kirkbride (Residency, Udaipur, for Red Cross work), Mrs Todd (not further identified), Mrs Trevelyan (wife of Humphrey Trevelyan, External Affairs Department, New Delhi). Mr T Finnigan (ex Loco Superintendent) received the silver medal.

HOUSEHOLD MEDALS

266 HOUSEHOLD MEDAL Class I. (Referred to by some collectors as ROYAL HOUSEHOLD ORDER, there is no collateral for this designation). A gold medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - equal red/light blue/yellow/dark blue/green. Eleven awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found.

267 HOUSEHOLD MEDAL Class II. A gold medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - central red (5mm), blue (10mm) and red outer edge (5.5mm). Ten awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found.

262

HOUSEHOLD MEDAL Class III

268



<i>Obverse</i>	A five pointed star. Within an inner circle with beaded edge, the head of Maharana Bhupal Singh, facing right, wearing a brocade tunic and pearl necklace.
<i>Reverse</i>	Plain except for the engraved Devanagari inscription, on three lines, (Household Service Medal)
<i>Size</i>	40mm
<i>Metal</i>	White metal
<i>Ribbon</i>	38mm - central yellow (5mm), green (10mm) and yellow outer edge (5.5mm)
<i>Suspension</i>	Ring pinned to the top ray of the star
<i>Designer</i>	Not known
<i>Naming</i>	Unnamed
<i>Bars Issued</i>	None

Twenty six awards have been traced in records.

269 HOUSEHOLD MEDAL Class IV. A bronze medal, the ribbon attributed to it is 38mm - central green (5mm), yellow (10mm) and green outer edge (5.5mm). Forty three awards have been traced in records but no example of the medal has been found.

Note.

1. John Allan (Ed.) "Catalogue of the Coins in the Indian Museum Calcutta". Vol IV. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1928. p 263.

CHAPTER 48

UNIDENTIFIED

Included within the text are a number of references to unidentified ribbons believed to be associated with a particular State. Since completing the text several ribbons have been drawn to my attention, some specifically identified with a State, others only thought to be so. They have therefore been included separately at the end of the medal ribbon chart.

270. 33mm; golden yellow centre of 25mm. Red edges (3mm) and two red stripes, each 1mm, set 8mm from the edges. Almost certainly from **BIKANER** (it was discovered there) but it does not match any known description and there are no known medals without a ribbon. It may, of course, have been a sample of a ribbon not actually taken into service.

271 32mm; dull red with four white stripes, each 1mm, equally spaced. Reputedly **BIKANER** Long Service Medal, 1st Class (see No. **91**) but not borne out by sources in Bikaner.

272. 32mm; 10mm golden yellow centre edged on either side with dark green (3mm), white (1mm), dark green (3mm), white (4mm). One source believes **FARIDKOT** but it has not been possible to identify any likely medal for this.

273. 32mm; 10mm golden dark green centre edged on either side with white (3mm), yellow (1mm), white (3mm), yellow (4mm). Again, one source believes **FARIDKOT** but it has not been possible to identify any likely medal for this.

274. 30mm; red centre (16mm) edged with yellow (4mm) and green (3mm).

275. 31mm; red centre (20mm) edged with white (2mm) and yellow (3.5mm).

276. 31mm; yellow centre (20mm) edged with white (2mm) and green (3.5mm)

The above three are similar in style and colouring to the later versions of **INDORE** ribbons. As mentioned for nos. **156**, **157** and **158** there would appear to be three medal designs more than there are designations or accepted ribbons. The three ribbons may, therefore, be connected with those medals.

277. 30mm; 23mm green centre with yellow edges (3.5mm). Believed by one source to be **KEONTHAL** - Medal for Special Service to the State. See the comment under no. **264**, Udaipur Mewar Coronation Medal 1930, for other references to Keonthal. No awards have been traced to this State.

278. 30mm; three equal stripes of green, red, yellow. Believed by one source to be **MANDI** Silver Jubilee 1938 (see no. **194**), but the ribbon identified in the text for that medal is the correct one. This ribbon remains unidentified.

279. 32mm; brown centre (21mm) with dull red edges (5.5mm). Believed by one source to be **MYSORE** Scout Service Medal (see no. **199**). The text refers to a 32mm green ribbon for this medal and it has not been confirmed that this ribbon belongs to Mysore.

280. 32mm; blue centre (24mm) with green edges (4mm). Believed by one source to be **PATIALA** Household Medal but this is not borne out by the evidence in Patiala and the ribbon therefore remains unidentified.

281. 40mm; equal stripes of red, sandy yellow, light blue, white, green. This is similar in design to the supposed ribbon for **UDAIPUR MEWAR** Household Medal Class I. Given the confusion of Udaipur awards it may well belong to that State, but it has not been possible to identify it.

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NOTE:

An entry in **bold type** indicates the title of a medal

An entry in *italics* indicates a battle or battle honour

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